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# CALIFORNIA LIBRARIAN



*Printer's Mark of  
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*July 1960*





Editor, WM. R. ESHELMAN

*Los Angeles State College*

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*San Marino Public Library*

Executive Secretary-Treasurer,

MRS. W. R. YELLAND

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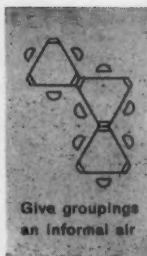


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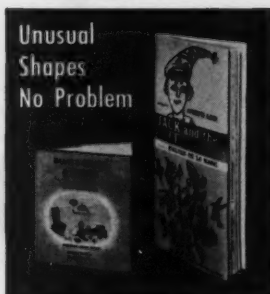
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## THE WHITTIER PUBLIC LIBRARY

by MARGARET FULMER

THE NEW WHITTIER PUBLIC LIBRARY building, staff-planned and paid for when the doors were opened June 1, 1959, brings books and people together efficiently and economically. All public services are on one level. The central circulation desk serves both children and adults. There are two main entrances, one on the street side with a ramp and steps and one on the level on the parking lot side. With few walls, and most of these and the book stacks movable, the colorful building reflects the modern trend of openness and flexibility. Adjustment can be made to changing services and there is room to grow.

The distinguishing fact that the building is paid for is due to the planning of the City Council. In 1955, when the one cent state-collected sales tax law became effective, the City Council adopted the policy of using this almost doubled revenue to reduce the tax rate and placed the balance in a capital outlay fund to construct the new library building without a bond issue. In three years a total of \$450,000 of sales tax revenue went into this fund. Ninety thousand dollars was added from the sale of the old site. A small tax levy of 7½ cents produced another \$50,000, and the balance came from other miscellaneous sources and surpluses. The building with its furnishings and equipment represents an investment of almost \$700,000.

New library buildings usually result from the thought and effort of a number of people over a period of time. In 1950 the Board of Library Trustees, aware of the growth of Whittier and the obsolescence of the Whittier Public Library discussed a new building. By 1952 a civic center for Whittier was

on the drawing boards with sites for civic buildings including the library. Although the Board was impressed with the proposed civic center site, there was reluctance to move the library from its original site. In 1954 due to action of the merchants urging immediate sale of the library site, the City Council passed a resolution asking the Board to take immediate steps to engage an architect to prepare plans and estimates. Some preliminary plans were prepared and the matter rested until May 1956 when the Board again placed the need for a new building before the City Council. The Council reviewed the matter of site, asked the Board to proceed with plans for a new library building in the civic center and appointed William H. Harrison as architect. Edwin Castagna, Librarian, Long Beach Public Library, was chosen as librarian-consultant.

In writing the program for the architect, the staff studied Whittier as a community along with the new standards for Public Library Service. From its beginnings as a Quaker village, Whittier has valued education; this is reflected in its excellent public school system, and in its widely known liberal arts college. The new public library building was planned to give excellent and forward-looking services to a community well above average in economic and educational attainments.

"Form follows function," the principle of modern architecture established by Louis Sullivan, governed the plan of the building. Built on a concrete slab of 23,210 square feet, with a central core of 5,050 square feet on two levels for operations supporting the staff and the services, its dimensions are 110' x 211'. The core contains



work rooms, offices, staff facilities, public toilets, two small rooms with public typewriters and the microfilm reader, plumbing, electrical panels, and air conditioning fans and coils. The areas for services, each planned by the staff member in charge of the service, were almost self-locating around the central core.

Service to adults, including young adults, occupies the most space. The reference area, 2,800 square feet seating 65, plus 6 stools, is located at the back in the adult area, the quietest part of the building. The reference desk, located between the reference stacks and the periodicals indexes table, is easily accessible. The door back of the reference desk opens into the central core where unbound magazines are shelved. The bound magazine stacks are in the reference area. Back of these, the non-fiction stacks extend along the wall almost the full width of the building, with a corner area of 280 square feet reserved for the Whittier history collection. A mezzanine can be placed over the non-fiction stacks to double the collection. The adult lounge, 504 square feet seating 19, is located at the front of the adult area and sided by the newspaper racks and the current magazine shelving. The readers' aid desk is nearby. The young adult lounge, 486 square feet seating 13, plus 4 stools, is separated from the adult lounge by the block of fiction stacks. This colorful lounge, at the right of the street entrance, is sided by low shelving containing a browsing collection, hi-fi with ear phones, records, and college catalogs. The card catalog is located in the midway area between the young adult lounge and the reference area.

The children's area, easily accessible from either of the main entrances, covers thirty per cent of the total floor space or 6,804 square feet.

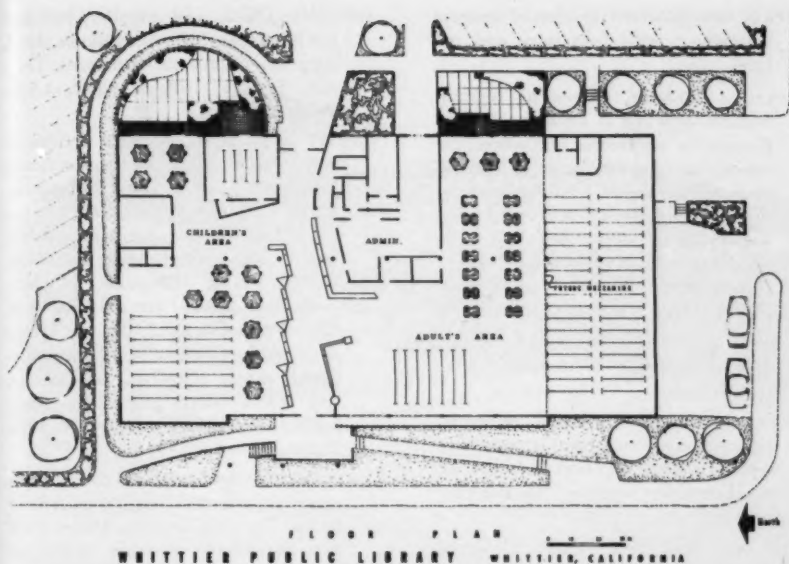
The children's information desk is near the entrance. The children's catalog is farther in, near the readers' aid desk. The children's collection can be doubled in the present stacks which cover 1,540 square feet of space. Reading tables and chairs seating 36 are arranged around two sides of this block of stacks. The children's lounge in front of the window on the street side is colorful and inviting. The young children's area, 760 square feet, is formed by a wall of the multipurpose room and a wall of the children's staff work room. Picture books and easy books are in wall shelves. Tables, chairs, and stools in small size seat 32. This area opens through sliding glass doors into the children's patio. The work room is a core containing the office of the children's librarian and the children's toilets, entered from the reading area.

The multipurpose room, 696 square feet seating 100 children or 50 adults, is used for story hours and small book, film, and library-related group meetings. Sliding glass doors open into the children's patio.

The divider, double-faced shelves in sections connected by decorative screen of expanded metal panels, is the architect's solution for an element of division between the children's and adults' areas. It contains the rental, new non-fiction, seven-day, science fiction, and browsing collections on the adult side and special children's collections on the other side. Three small built-in glass display cases make exhibits visible from both sides.

The central circulation desk, near the parking lot entrance and parallel to the route of the borrower, whether he enters from the street side or parking lot, lines an outer wall of the central core, rounds the corner and extends for about one-third the length of the adjoining wall. Two photographic





charging machines operate on the borrowers' side of the desk. The control box for all incoming telephone calls, the registration of borrowers, and the film service are handled at the short side of the desk. At the back, two sliding doors open into the circulation work room. The central circulation desk and the circulation processes are a unit of the Technical Services.

The Technical Services Department—including ordering, cataloging, book processing, mending, and preparation for the bindery—occupies 416 square feet in the central core. There are desks for three staff members including the Head of Technical Services. A work cabinet for book processing and mending with two staff stations lines one wall. Steel shelving for books waiting to be cataloged lines the opposite wall. The shelf list cases and the order files are conveniently located. The outside entrance, from the parking lot, serves as the delivery entrance. When the basement area of 2,940 square feet is

finished, Technical Services will be moved into that space, and expand its operations. This area is planned to include bookmobile and branch library services if Whittier's boundary lines are extended by annexations of surrounding areas.

#### BUILDING DATA

ARCHITECT: William H. Harrison, F.A.I.A.;  
fee, \$43,780.

CONSULTANT: Edwin Castagna, *Librarian*,  
Long Beach Public Library.

STAFF WORKING WITH ARCHITECT: Mrs. Ethel C. Mattox, *Head*, Children's Services; Mr. Eric A. Teel, *Head*, Technical Services; Mrs. Gloria E. Teel, *Head*, Adult Services; Miss Margaret Fulmer, *Librarian*.

BUILDING COSTS: site, 238' x 324' in Civic Center; city-owned; parking, 45 spaces plus 9 for staff; construction, 23,210 sq. ft. at \$23.02 a sq. ft.; cost, \$534,400; landscaping, Walter J. Barrows, Supt., Park Dept.; cost, \$4,354; sprinkler system, cost, \$3,500; total project cost, \$700,000.



**TYPE OF CONSTRUCTION:** reinforced concrete throughout with field stone and red brick trims.

**LIGHTING:** sunbeam fluorescent lighting fixtures attached to ceilings; recessed fixtures in workrooms and offices; recessed incandescent domes of varying diameters arranged in random patterns in young children's area; incandescent domes over circulation desk; cost, \$53,800; outside lighting, spot lights at top corners of building; fluorescent parking-lot lighting; cost, \$1,250.

**FLOORS:** Vinyl asbestos flooring throughout; cork on staff side of circulation desk; cost, \$10,135.

**AIR-CONDITIONING:** two units; refrigeration, 125-ton centrifugal compressor, supplier; Trane Co.; fans and coils for air handling, supplier, Recold Co.; cost, \$98,718.

**BOOKS:** capacity, adults, 125,000; children, 40,000.

**SEATING:** adults, 84; young adults, 13; children, 36; young children, 32; multipurpose room, 100 children or 50 adults.

**SHELVING:** adults, steel, supplier, Remington-Rand; cost, \$16,970; children, wood, supplier, California Structures, Inc.; cost, \$10,742; footage, adult, 8,652; children, 2,955.

**LIBRARY FURNITURE:** central circulation desk to specifications, Remington-Rand; cost, \$9,867; catalog cases, Remington-Rand; cost, \$7,136; periodical display and storage shelving, Remington-Rand; cost, \$3,469; reading tables, Bro-Dart; reading chairs, Milwaukee, supplier, Gold Desk & Safe; vertical files, map case, Remington-Rand; Readers' Guide table, picture book table, atlas and dictionary stands, office desks, book trucks, step stools, swivel chairs, Bro-Dart; posture chairs, Harter; Dray office files, Barton & Butcher.

**OTHER FURNISHINGS:** sofas and chairs, Gunlocke; multipurpose stacking chairs and folding leg table, Herman Miller; staff room furnishings, Herman Miller; librarian's office, Herman Miller; stools, Knoll and Remington-Rand; occasional chairs for offices, Herman Miller.

**DRAPERIES:** flame-proof cotton mesh, supplier, William Samson; cost, \$4,679.

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Summary Proceedings of Sacra- mento Conference, 1959	1.00	Choosing the Right Book	.25
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Wight Report: <i>Separation of Pro- fessional and Non-professional Work in Public Libraries</i> , each	.25	Mackenzie: <i>A Fine Contagion</i>	5.00

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## 62nd ANNUAL CONFERENCE, OCTOBER 1960

by BERT N. SNOW

NAMES MAKE NEWS as well as conferences. Such will be the case at the 62nd Annual California Library Association Conference at Pasadena's Huntington-Sheraton Hotel, October 4-8.

Headlining the 1960 Conference, the theme of which is "People: the Reason for Libraries," will be Dr. Linus Pauling, the distinguished teacher and research scientist in chemistry at the California Institute of Technology; Irving Stone, widely-read novelist and biographer; Dr. Easton Rothwell, new president of Mills College; Sam Hinton, popular singer of folk songs; and folklorist William O. Steele, who has written many books for children and young people. General Conference Chairman, Dr. Martha Boaz, promises that there will be more names added as plans progress.

The morning after the traditional

President's Reception, Dr. Pauling will speak to the First General Session, sponsored by the College, University and Research Libraries Section, on the subject of "The Molecular Theory of Civilization." Dr. Pauling was awarded the 1954 Nobel Prize for research in chemistry and has been a courageous defender of academic freedom, and an outspoken critic of uncontrolled atomic testing which results in atmospheric pollution.

Preceding Dr. Pauling's address will be greetings from Mayor Woods of Pasadena and introductions and comments by June Bayless, President of CLA; Peter Conmy, President-elect of CLA; and Dr. Boaz.

The University of Southern California School of Library Science has announced a welcome attraction for its luncheon in the person of author Irv-



ing Stone. Mr. Stone, who has contributed such best sellers as *Lust for Life*, *Immortal Wife*, *Love is Eternal*, *Men to Match My Mountains*, and many others, frankly admits that his writing and thinking have been greatly influenced by Europeans; Hemmingway, Faulkner, and other Americans, however, have made lasting impressions. A native Californian, Mr. Stone has conducted a school for writers in Southern California, and says that it is his avowed intention to "make the biography as dramatic and deeply moving as any play."

Dr. Easton Rothwell, noted historian, author and educator, has been selected to give the annual Coulter Lecture, which will be delivered this year following a luncheon on Thursday, October 6. Dr. Rothwell became the eighth president of Mills College last September and immediately raised some eyebrows by discontinuing the B.S. degree and home economic courses at the 107-year-old college for women. At the same time he redoubled the emphasis on liberal arts and announced as his aim for the students, "a sense of the wholeness of learning, the ability to locate oneself in a world that is fragmented in its knowledge." The University of California School of Librarianship Alumni Association sponsors the Coulter Lecture.

The Children's and Young People's Section has arranged for colorful, double-barreled speaker attractions in Sam Hinton and William O. Steele, appearing before the banquet and Third General Session, respectively.

Guests of the banquet, sponsored jointly with the School Library Association of California, will be treated to the folk singing and commentary of Sam Hinton, who was so successful in his appearance at the 1958 CLA Conference. Mr. Hinton has a nationwide reputation for his outstanding ability,

not only of singing folk songs, but of interpreting them for his audiences. He features a wide selection of folk songs of varying national origin including many American mountain songs, ballads, negro spirituals, work songs, and cowboy songs. Sandwiched between his personal appearances, Mr. Hinton occupies the position of curator of the T. Wayland Vaughan Aquarium-Museum at Scripps Institution of Oceanography, University of California at La Jolla.

William O. Steele will speak before the final General Session meeting, Friday evening, October 7, on the subject of American folklore. Mr. Steele knows whereof he speaks—he was born in the Davy Crockett country of Tennessee, has lived there all his life, and uses the legends and history of this region as background material for his talks and his many books. His tall tales, built around real figures such as Crockett, Andy Jackson and Daniel Boone and real incidents such as earthquakes and comets, are almost sure bets to evoke laughter from audiences.

Of special interest to many will be a three-day Building Clinic, under the direction of Los Angeles County Librarian John Henderson, in which all phases of library building construction will be discussed.

Midway through the Conference is that relaxation period called the "Free Afternoon." How much relaxation you will get is up to you. In any case, the Recreation Committee, headed by Constance Lodge, has arranged many diversified trips and tours, one of which will be to a nearby motion picture studio. Needless to say, the Huntington Library, with all of its wondrous resources, is practically next door to the hotel headquarters. The grounds alone are worth the short trip.

Exhibitors' Night, Thursday, Octo-

(Please turn to page 197)



## District Meeting Reports

### GOLDEN EMPIRE DISTRICT

A COLORFUL HAWAIIAN SETTING and exotic Hawaiian food lent atmosphere to the annual meeting of the Golden Empire District, held on Friday, April 29, from 2:00 to 10:00 p.m. in the Larnai, Sacramento.

President Margaret Dinsmoor presented June Bayless, CLA President, who spoke of the Association's plans and objectives. A discussion of Marjorie Fiske's *Book Selection and Censorship*, by a college librarian, a public library trustee, and a public library patron, made up the remainder of the morning's program.

Allan R. Laursen, Librarian, College of the Pacific and Stockton College Library, recalled instances of censorship in Los Angeles and Marin counties which led to Miss Fiske's investigation. As the public library is the last stronghold of intellectual freedom, the librarian must use extreme care in book selection, and California librarians are doing an outstanding job. This view was expressed by Mrs. Edith Cohendet, a trustee of the Burlingame Public Library. Mrs. John W. Tucker, a patron of the Stockton Public Library, observed that a kind of censorship exists because librarians give readers credit for more knowledge of books than they actually have, and borrowers are prone to take whatever is made easily available. She also encouraged active publicity, to bring the borrower to the books, and warned against the view that a librarian should protect the books from the people, as a pioneer mother protected her children from the Indians.

The afternoon program included talks about two special classes of the public, older people and teen-agers. Mrs. Anita K. Bly, a member of the Public Relations Department of the Sacramento City Library, described this Library's sponsorship of the Golden Autumn Club. For eight years, this project has provided entertainment and companionship for a large group of "senior citizens," and has added to the Library's cordial community relationship.

"Juvenile Delinquency: How Libraries Can Help to Prevent and Decrease It," was discussed by Mrs. Dolores Sutter, a policewoman in the Juvenile Division, Sacramento Police Department, and Mrs. Pat Stadley, author of *Black Leather Barbarians*.

Mrs. Sutter urged librarians to understand and accept the problems of juvenile delinquency; to continue to provide material for study, but also to help young people appreciate the satisfactions of reading for pleasure. She wants us to teach parents, and pre-parents, the proper role for reading. A future generation, properly trained, can be free from delinquency, and librarians can help to achieve this.

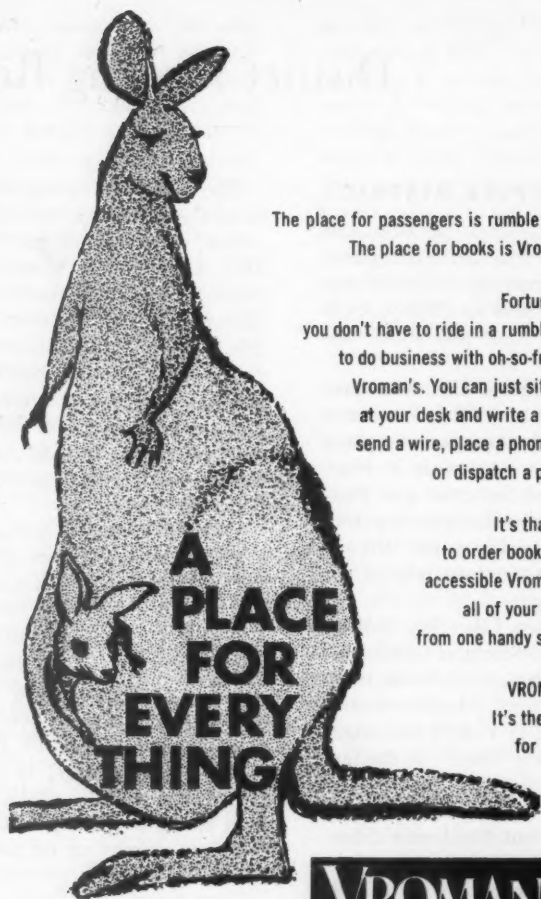
Mrs. Stadley emphasized the opportunities of librarians to "get through" to teen-agers, by paying attention to their needs, treating them as adults whenever possible, and by avoiding a negative approach. Our greatest challenge is to attract young people to our libraries, then to show them that reading can be exciting.

After dinner, State Librarian Carma

(Please turn to page 158)

July 1960 / 143





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# The Governor's Conference on Public Library Service

*National Library Week was celebrated in a special way this year in California. On April 7th and 8th at the State Capitol was held the first Governor's Conference on Public Library Service, under the joint sponsorship of the California Library Association and the State Library. Librarians were invited to submit names of persons especially suitable for participation, and on the basis of these some 1,600 invitations were sent by the Governor. County supervisors, mayors, city councilmen, city and county administrators, lay persons, library trustees, members of the California legislature, librarians, and representatives of no fewer than twenty-eight organizations were invited. The invitation was accepted by 583 persons, and 490 actually registered and attended. Of these, 129 were city or county librarians, 26 were school librarians, and 6 were from special or institutional libraries.*

*Discussion group leaders and recorders were carefully selected for these skills, and were not usually librarians. Twelve topics were suggested for discussion to the eighteen groups which met the afternoon of the first day and the morning of the second, but no attempt was made to limit the groups to these topics. Each discussion group was formed with the goal of having representatives from both the northern and southern parts of the state, from metropolitan and rural areas, from laymen and officials—in short, to achieve a microcosm of the Conference itself. To each group was added two librarians as resource people, and two young adults.*

## The Governor's Charge to the Conference

IT IS WITH GREAT PLEASURE that I welcome you to this conference, the first Governor's Conference on Public Library Service in California. I thank you for your ready response to my invitation to meet here in Sacramento today and tomorrow as a part of the celebration of National Library Week.

This conference is composed of representative citizens of California within and outside the profession of librarianship. Your group is representative of all of California—its great metropolitan centers and its villages, its factories and its farming.

I have called you together for very specific objectives. I hope you will acquaint yourselves with the present status of public library service to California citizens. Second, I ask that you explore and define what effective public library service is and can be. And finally, I ask that you recommend practical



and appropriate measures for improving public library service in California.

The importance of the public library is not in question. We know that the success of a democracy depends on the quality of its leadership and the enlightenment of its people. Leadership does not grow on trees and enlightenment cannot be generated in a vacuum. Leaders must be trained and the people must be informed. These are ancient truths. But they are no less true for being old. They were known, of course, to the architects of modern democracy, and they are known to us. But they need constant reaffirmation because we are forever tending to forget them.

Guided by these truths we have established a great public school system and a system of higher education which California—I am proud to say—supports more generously than any other state in the Union. More tardily we have recognized that the role of the public library in educating our people is a central one.

Certainly this was the point of view of our State Legislature when it incorporated the following statement in the Education Code of the State of California: "The Legislature . . . declares that the public library is a supplement to the formal system of free public education, and a source of information and inspiration to persons of all ages, and a resource for continuing education and re-education beyond the years of formal education, and as such deserves adequate financial support from government at all levels."

There can be no question of the importance of books to all of us in whatever pursuit of public or private endeavor we find ourselves. Books for self-improvement, books to widen our horizons, books to teach us of our own proud heritage, books to transmit knowledge and understanding of our own culture and the cultures of faraway places—yes, books are important, indeed! The power of the printed word is very much with us.

Books are the repository of human experience. Their wide dissemination is a public necessity. Books of quality in quantity—as well as the supplemental library materials, periodicals, pamphlets, film, maps, pictures, and so forth—are fundamentally important to the nation and this State and every community within it. These are time-honored truths. They account for the establishment of the public library in every forward-looking city and town in the western world. They are taken for granted by the people of California.

## II

However, there are some facts about library service in this State that require immediate attention. They are not entirely pleasant facts. And that is why I issued a call for this conference.

Last year I received the excellent reports of the California Public Library Commission, which I read with interest and concern. I have also kept myself informed about the program of the California Library Association in its effort to keep pace with California's expanding needs. It is shocking to realize that the number of books per capita in public libraries has decreased by 31 per cent



since 1940. This decrease has occurred at a time when great demands are being made on our libraries and they are expected to meet new and urgent needs.

Let me be quite specific. Mechanization, especially in the new form of it that we call automation, is on the verge of providing most people with undreamed-of leisure. I am not reporting what I have seen in a crystal ball but my last hard look at some significant statistics.

Between 1950-1959, fifty-five billion dollars was spent on industrial research and development programs. In the next decade this will increase to \$175 billion. This research will inevitably produce labor-saving devices of marvelous efficiency resulting in an enormous reduction of the manpower needed in industry. In other words, there will be much more leisure time for everyone in the years ahead.

What do you suppose that men provided with this much leisure time will do? Some of them will look at TV, some will head for the hills, some will try the arts and crafts, some will go in for rock and roll and some will just plain rock. But a great many will turn to books and other reading materials and our libraries must be ready for them. The readier the libraries, the more new readers there will be.

It is also significant that the role of the public library has changed in recent years. The role of the library is no longer passively custodial; today good public libraries are lively centers for the communication of ideas—they are engaged in the active dissemination of learning. It would be ironical, indeed, if libraries were to be neglected at just the time when their role in the life of the community has become a more dynamic and positive one.

The librarian's technical competence is not required to see all this; it is plain to any informed layman.

Under these circumstances it is alarming that our public libraries are falling behind instead of moving ahead. I am informed that of the fifteen thousand titles published each year in this country the minimum number of acquisitions for a good library system serving 100,000 people should be 5,000 titles. Few of our libraries achieve this goal. The great majority are limited by their budget to a maximum of between two and three thousand titles. For a state that prides itself on its high standards this is not good enough.

Due to the lack of funds, public libraries are able to buy only twenty-two cents worth of books annually for each resident of the State. In fact, the people of California spend only \$1.85 per capita for public library service per year. This is less than the average cost of six gallons of gasoline or a carton of cigarettes.

### III

The Public Library Commission, supported by the California Library Association, made two major recommendations which this conference must consider thoughtfully in its deliberations today and tomorrow. The first of these recommendations involves co-operation among existing libraries to im-



prove the quality and quantity of their services. By forming larger units of service, two or more libraries can build a larger and better common stock of books and draw upon a larger, more diversified staff to assist the public's utilization of these books.

We have instances in California today where such co-operative efforts have been successful and productive. Unfortunately, we do not have enough of them, and the Library Commission took the position that a greater incentive to coöperate must be offered. Inertia, a mistaken sense of local pride, lack of funds to finance changes, and long-established traditions have apparently stood in the way of many needed coöperative efforts.

Accordingly, the second major recommendation of the Public Library Commission was designed to provide an incentive to coöperate by setting up a plan of State financial aid to local libraries and library systems which support themselves at a reasonable standard or level of service. This proposal was considered by committees of the State Legislature and it deserves further consideration from all of us. Indeed, these are matters which I urge you to study during this conference. You may be sure that the recommendations which this conference makes will receive my closest attention.

Before I conclude, I want to say something about librarians. I think of them as among the most dedicated of our public employees. I consider librarians qualified by training and knowledge to examine the library needs of this state and to suggest practical solutions to their problems.

The public library serves for most of us as more than a center of information and communication and recreational reading. It is in addition a symbol of freedom. I am not unaware of the courageous stand taken repeatedly by the library profession to keep the channels of information clear, to resist the self-appointed censor, and to insist that all sides of public issues be made available to the people.

There is a happy double meaning in the designation "free" public library. The facilities of the public library are not only offered *free of charge*; the library is and must be *free to select and offer* to its readers writings that reflect the whole spectrum of views and opinions.

Only a society sure of its foundations and confident of its goals dares guarantee this second kind of freedom. Let those who are unfree submit themselves to this decisive test. They are often censorious of us. I say, let those who are without censors cast the first stone.

We need to rededicate ourselves to the task of providing good library service to all citizens of California. I am sure you at this conference will make a significant contribution to this eminently worthwhile goal.

Edmund G. Brown  
Governor

Sacramento



## A Layman's View

I have been asked to write my thoughts about the Conference from the point of view of a layman. My ideas are based upon impressions which I received in the large conference sessions, within my own discussion group, and as I talked with other conference members. They are also conditioned by what I learned as chairman of a study of the Berkeley Public Library by the League of Women Voters of Berkeley.

Several general sessions were held with excellent speakers. The tone of the conference was set by the speakers when they brought out the values of the public library in our democratic society. The conference was then divided into small discussion groups. Each group was given twelve questions to answer, chosen so that the discussion could cover any of a wide range of library problems.

There were, I believe, four areas of discussion which developed in the groups. The first was recognition that our libraries do not meet the needs of our modern society. The modern public library must provide educational, recreational, and cultural services to the community. If it does not serve its educational function, the citizen will not turn to it for information and guidance. If it does not serve its recreational function, the citizen will turn to other competing sources of entertainment. If it does not serve its cultural function, the community's cultural standards will be lower. There are other public institutions which offer educational, recreational, or cultural services. The library has the responsibility of developing these services where there is need.

There was general agreement that our libraries do not provide these services. Who is responsible? The taxpayer and the librarian together must share the blame. The taxpayer does not provide enough financial support. However, the librarian does not "sell" the library to his community. In order to compete with other public agencies he must demonstrate the value of library service. First, he must ascertain community needs by studying the demands of non-users as well as those of library users. Second, he must satisfy these needs as well as he can with existing funds. Third, he must tell the community that these services are available. When he shows what a library can do for a community he will be able to ask for increased financial support and taxpayers will be willing to give it.

The second area of discussion was state aid to communities with very poor library service or none at all. There are such communities in our state, according to the California Public Library Commission. Representatives to the conference were concerned about these communities and considered the advisability of state aid. There was agreement that state aid should not be provided unless communities show that they are unable to support their libraries.

Fear was expressed that if the state contributed too high a percentage to the



library budget the state would control library policies. On the other hand, some libraries may not be able to function without outside help. A compromise will have to be reached in which some local libraries are helped while the responsibility for library policy remains with the community. One possible solution is to unify libraries into more economical library systems. State aid might then be given in the form of an incentive.

The provision of state aid was also considered as an incentive for the solution of two problems which exist in heavily-populated areas. This was the third area of discussion. The first problem is unequal library service, e.g., it is too costly for some cities with well established libraries to give library privileges to citizens from adjacent areas which do not have libraries. The second is duplication of services in neighboring cities. As an example, two cities within a few miles of each other might both have fine art collections and yet both lack science collections.

These are problems which require the coöperative efforts of librarians and laymen to achieve solutions. This will require flexibility and ingenuity since it involves stepping out of accepted city, county, and district boundary lines.

The fourth area of discussion was library service for youth. Much time was spent discussing the relationship between the public school and the public library, and the need for coöperation between the two. Regular channels of discussion should be set up between the teachers and librarians so that the librarian will know what is required of students and the teacher will know what is available in the library.

The public library and the school library must meet different needs. In order to avoid unnecessary duplication or voids, the two should be carefully coördinated. One suggestion made at the conference was that the school libraries be kept open after school hours and evenings to relieve the public library. It was thought that school libraries need examination to determine whether they are fulfilling their function.

What did the first library conference accomplish? The delegates learned that the problems in their communities are similar to those of other communities in the state. Some had found solutions which others might use. Problems of a statewide nature were recognized and possible solutions discussed. There was unanimous agreement that another conference should be held. Hope was expressed that our libraries will have progressed by the time the next conference is held. Progress will be primarily the responsibility of the librarian in his community who must provide initiative and direction for community leaders.

*Elisabeth Olney Anderson*  
Citizen

*Berkeley*



## Reactions of Two Board Members

THREE AREAS considered by most of the discussion groups were of particular interest to us:

1. The relationships between public libraries and school libraries.
2. The question of "promotion" for public libraries.
3. The broad question of state-aided library systems.

There was a very widespread belief that in nearly all communities, relationships between school and public libraries leave much to be desired. Problems arise in the areas of student discipline, the hours in which school libraries are open, the frequent lack of communication between schools and public libraries and to some extent duplication of services. All of these discussions pointed up the necessity of school boards and library boards working more closely together to insist upon good library service for students in the most efficient and economical way from the standpoint of taxpayers.

A commonly voiced sentiment was that school libraries should be open substantially longer hours. Apparently most school libraries close almost immediately after the end of the regular school day and are not open at all in the evenings or on Saturdays. This results in a largely sterile collection of material not available to students when needed most. Thus the student load is shifted over to the public library which is usually not prepared for the avalanche, either as to personnel or material.

There appear to be real opportunities for improving the relationship between schools and public libraries through careful study, and many Trustees present at the conference indicated renewed intent to work on these problems.

An interesting area of thinking which attracted considerable attention is the extent to which public libraries should "promote" the use of library services. These views range all the way from "Libraries should make materials available to the public, then it is up to the public to use them" to "It is the job of the libraries to see that the public reads more and better books, whether it wants to or not." Probably the viewpoint that appeals to the majority of Trustees lies midway between these two extremes. Reasonable publicity in the local press as to library events, new books, and other materials is appropriate, and good public relations through "friends of the libraries" and similar groups is desirable. On the other hand, many Trustees feel it is hard to justify expense to promote library usage on the grounds that the principle motivation should come from the public itself. The extreme viewpoint of "promoting" library usage would be somewhat akin to a city providing good streets and then urging people to increase their driving. The lack of unanimity among the conference members probably points up that we need more careful thinking as



to just what the role of public libraries should be. Even trained librarians differ considerably on this subject.

Probably the most challenging single subject before the conference was the concept of state aid to libraries, with particular reference to the plan encompassed by A.B. 1985. Discussion of this important subject was not referred to in the preliminary announcements of the conference or in the suggested discussion topics. However, it was in the back, or front, of everyone's mind at the conference, and when two or three of the speakers at the general session dwelt on the topic, it naturally came to the forefront in nearly all of the discussion groups. This is, of course, an extremely large topic, and there would be about as many variations in viewpoint as there were people at the conference. It appears to us, when this problem is boiled down to its essence, that the question becomes:

Better library service through cooperation—with state aid.

OR

Better library service through cooperation—without state aid.

There appear to be many sound reasons for a higher degree of cooperation between libraries as to availability of material, reciprocal borrowing arrangements, and certain clerical functions. Nearly everyone at the conference was in agreement with these objectives. Most professional librarians appeared to feel strongly that the state aid concept is desirable as the only effective means of achieving this cooperation. A sizeable group of the Trustees and city officials in attendance, however, appeared to feel that we have not yet exhausted opportunities for achieving better library service through voluntary cooperation. A number of libraries have made substantial progress in improving service in their many interrelated communities, and no doubt much more can be accomplished along this line.

Trustees sometimes have to act as a balance wheel between the enthusiasm of the professional librarians and the apathy of the taxpaying public. There are countless pressures on tax sources for higher and higher expenditures, and left to themselves all phases of public service tend to seek an increasing proportion of the tax dollar. It is the job of governing bodies to keep expenditures in perspective, with a reasonable relationship between areas of service.

Both of us were highly impressed with the good organization of the conference and the objectivity and skill of the group leaders. Apparently in all of the discussion groups there was a high degree of participation. Even though there were occasional sharp differences of opinion, from all reports there was a spirit of friendly give and take throughout the conference. We were impressed with the serious thinking in evidence and the willingness of conference members to listen to the many varied viewpoints expressed. All in all we were pleased with the tenor of the conference and were very happy for the opportunity to be a part of it.

*Allen Laws & Paul Cunningham*  
Trustees

*San Marino*



## A Librarian's Report

THE HONORABLE EDMUND G. BROWN, Governor of California, called the first Governor's Conference on Public Library Service to acquaint the members of the conference with the present status of public library service to California citizens; so that they could explore and define what effective public library service is and can be; and finally, so they could recommend practical and appropriate measures for improving public library service in California.

The subject must have seemed important to a great number of people as, from the 1600 invitations mailed, 490 laymen, young adults and librarians attended the conference. All three groups brought with them different backgrounds, interests, and ideas.

The adults represented a well educated lay group with an extremely high percentage of library users present, but here, from this almost elite group, we found an appalling lack of understanding of what library service is, what library service should be, and who has good library service. In too many cases communication between the library and the citizen was either non-existent or extremely weak.

The young adults who attended the conference were a strong and vocal group. The majority of them had used a public library and found it wanting in many areas. "Why didn't the public library have adequate and up-to-date reference books?" "Where were the technical books needed to explain today's complex life?" And often, "Where were the standard items that should be in all libraries?" In one simple statement, their public library was all too often inadequate for their needs.

Librarians came with information on the status quo. They further were able to present what libraries are able to do and what libraries should do.

In the opening session of the conference, the Governor with a few well-chosen words, stressed the importance of the free public library. Professor McCormack followed, pointing out the impact of books on all portions of the society. To complete the first session, Edwin Castagna reviewed the problems that libraries have faced, that we have all read about, discussed, and attempted to solve. This self-analysis was a fitting introduction for the discussion groups which were to meet for the first time that afternoon.

Harold Hacker's talk on "Patterns of Public Library Development in New York State," Thursday evening, pointed out clearly what one state is doing to solve the complex problems that face the library. This is not the treatment of a near-fatal illness with sulphur and molasses, but a revitalization of all libraries within a geographical area into a cooperative system of independent libraries that enables all to give greatly improved service. The benefit from it



goes to all libraries, large, medium and small; thus making superior service available to everyone in the area.

To facilitate discussion, the conference was split into eighteen groups. These discussion groups met with two major problems. The first was the multiplicity and variety of topics raised for consideration, and the second, the attempt to provide the background information needed for good discussion to lead to a conclusion in two sessions of two-and-a-half hours each. With the outstanding efforts of discussion leaders and participants, the discussions took form. Questions such as "How can my county get library service?" awoke many persons to the fact that some portions of California have no library service at all. The citizen participant became aware of the inequity of the quality of service offered throughout the state and the various types of libraries that exist.

The library's public relations program was found to be extremely weak: often the citizen did not know what the library was trying to attain. There was much discussion on how the library's purpose and program could be publicized.

One point, almost universally agreed upon, was that the public library in California has insufficient tax support to carry out a good library program. It was accepted that in most cases additional local funds could be made available for this purpose, but a large group felt that some type of State Aid program was either absolutely necessary or would greatly facilitate the obtaining of adequate library support.

In these two short days the conference only scratched the surface of the needs and aims of the public library. The laymen did become aware of the status and condition of the library and felt they should return home to share, with the rest of the community, this information.

The conference opened the way to better education of the layman concerning the public library, and increased awareness of the library profession for the necessity of far more work and effort in this area. The author hopes we can return again in a few years to the second Governor's Conference on Public Library Service to delve more deeply into the problems of California Public Libraries.

*George Magladry*  
Humboldt County Librarian

*Eureka*



## "Youth Is Hope of Libraries"

THIS WAS THE TITLE of a feature article in the *Sacramento Bee* following the Governor's Conference on Public Library Service. After interviewing youth delegates who took part in the program, the writer concluded, "They came from all over the state, having been invited in an effort to find out what young people want from their libraries. . . . But having delegations of students to give advice to librarians is a two way thing. For the students went home more interested in libraries and more alive to their problems, more ready to participate in the battle for better libraries of the future."

Thirty-five young delegates attended the Conference, enough for representation in each discussion group. Well qualified by experience or interest to take part in a library affairs program, they participated in the exchange of information on all topics but were consulted especially on the question, "In what ways can the modern public library serve the interests and needs of youth?" In the reports of the discussion groups, it is difficult to know which statements were made by the students, but the following data about their library needs and interests, based on individual interviews with them and with other group members, seem a fair sampling of their opinions.

In many of the groups the need was voiced for more books for supplementary school reading, more science and technology, additional copies of the classics and better collections on history and government. A number of young people questioned the use of public library funds for mysteries and westerns and felt that this money should be used for books of real literary value. One student said, "If you want to read the best books of the past and today, the work of real students and great writers, where can you get them, if they are not in your library? You can't buy these at the corner store but that's where people who want mysteries and westerns can buy all they want." One of the young women quoted in the newspaper expressed ideas shared by many of these delegates, when she said, "I think libraries must be well supplied with great literature and they should have more technical books than they do now. These are the books people learn from."

About having school libraries open after school hours and on Saturday, there were decided differences of opinion. While some students welcomed this idea, others said that they would not use the school library more, even if it were open longer hours, because of the limitations of its material. Others said that even if they used the school libraries more during longer hours of opening, they would still want to use a public library for supplementary and recreational reading and one student added, "I go there for books, but also to meet my friends."

A number of young people voiced the need for more space in the library for their reference work, approved of young adult browsing space and collections, but expressed a dislike for having books marked with young adult symbols.



Two students regretted the fact that librarians did not have more time to talk with young people about books. Perhaps indicative of the tensions resulting from increased student use of public libraries was the opinion voiced in at least two groups, "Young people should be made to feel wanted in the public library."

The effect of the Conference experience on these young people may be well judged by the following quotations typical of statements made by many of the group:

This conference in my estimation was indeed a success. The conference brought forth library problems to people in many different fields and through the discussions remedies can be found. I sincerely hope that you will continue to support these conferences by sending other delegates. (To a Friends of the Library group.)

This was a valuable experience. I learned why public libraries cannot provide all of the materials we students need and also how I can help with future library problems.

This conference has been a rich and rewarding experience for me. I have been placed in a position to learn much, but also to represent the view of the young person upon the nature of better library service and how to attain this goal.

The largest delegation, sixteen students from the Pasadena High School Literary Classics class, was financed by the Kiwanis Club as part of National Library Week observance. In summing up the reactions of these delegates their head librarian, Mrs. Helen Eikenberry, found the following similarities:

Primary, of course, was the experience of enlightenment as to library problems, of aroused interest in proposed solutions, and of developing concern over individual responsibilities in effecting these solutions. The students were puzzled to find that they were considered a "problem" in many libraries and felt that if this were really true, public libraries needed more money for books and personnel, while school libraries needed to make their services more widely available. Although even our own Southern California libraries find it difficult to serve both young people and adults, the students learned there are many sections of our state in which conditions are very much less favorable. It was their consensus that state-wide help should be available to help equalize library opportunities.

The attendance of thirty-five qualified young people as delegates was a triumph of cooperation and faith. When the Conference Planning Committee asked the Children's and Young People's Section, working with the School Library Association, to assume the responsibility of sending forty young people to the Conference, the letter contained one sentence which was a masterpiece of understatement, "Desirable though it may be, there are complications in this idea."



The complications were that within two months' time, someone had to select these delegates, make arrangements for their transportation, housing, and supervision in Sacramento, and provide financing. In addition it was asked that the delegates should be a carefully selected group of intelligent and articulate young people of high school or junior college level, approximately one-half boys, well distributed geographically and "have some inclination towards and interest in libraries so that we may recruit for the profession."

It may be of interest to those who will be asked to plan for youth representation at future Conferences to know how the complications were resolved. After communication began between the Children's and Young People's Section, the School Library Association, and Young Adult Round Table, a chain reaction started. Letters and telephone calls came in from individuals, schools, and libraries not directly contacted. By return mail information was sent about the Conference program and topics to be discussed, suggestions about possible local financing, and the information that through the YMCA and YWCA a hotel in Sacramento would provide reduced rates for students. Since there was not time to organize a committee, many individuals took over the responsibility for recruiting, finding sources for funds, and making local arrangements.

The delegates came from high schools, a few from junior colleges, were about one-half boys, evenly divided between north and south, and came from sixteen cities or communities. They represented the following groups: 1. Student library club officers, 2. Student council members, 3. School editors, 4. Library trainees, 5. Class in literary classics, 6. Student librarian association of Northern California officers.

The students were accompanied, and in many cases their transportation was provided, by school or public librarians. In most cases their expenses were paid by sponsoring schools, libraries or community organizations, among which were a Friends of the Library group, a Kiwanis Club and a Student Council.

At the closing session of the Conference in summarizing the discussion group reports, Dr. Gerletti found that, in regard to topic twelve concerning young people and libraries, the majority opinion was that "public libraries should make young people feel that they are needed and that they belong." This philosophy was very much a part of the Conference program.

Congratulations are due to the Conference Planning Committee for their idea and to all those who helped carry it out and make possible the representation of young people in the program. To the discussion groups the students brought a refreshing candor and a challenging belief in high standards. Their views were of value to librarians and lay representatives. From the conference, the students gained insight in the world of library affairs which will be of present value to them and influence their future library attitudes as adult citizens and taxpayers.

*Mary Rogers Smith*

Los Angeles County Library

Los Angeles

*Note:* The full report of the Conference is available by application to the California State Library, attention of Miss Mary Schell.

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R. Zimmerman, spoke on "Keeping Our Balance," emphasizing the State Library's desire to serve by supplementing, not substituting for, local collections. Next, the use of radio and television in library public relations was discussed by highly qualified speakers. James P. Hensley, manager of radio station KROY, pointed out that best results come from brief announcements on major networks, and librarians should not hesitate to submit them to program managers.

Dr. Baxter M. Geeting, Chairman of the Division of Humanities and Fine Arts at Sacramento State College, and Mrs. Geeting, discussed the impact of TV on viewers. The Geetings present "Reading For Pleasure" on Channel 3 TV, each Sunday at 9:00 a.m. during the College year. Their enthusiastic remarks left no doubt that TV is a convincing medium for acquainting the public with books, and with the satisfactions of reading.

The final speaker was William Kelley, of San Francisco, author of *Gemini*, and West Coast editor of Doubleday and Co., who gave a thought-provoking lecture, inquiring "Are Ideals Possible in Today's World?" Liberty's greatest threat lies in fifty state legislatures and a Congress who pass laws that limit our freedoms and spend our money. Corporations also infringe, especially through advertising. Mr. Kelley denied that "all men are created equal," declaring that some folk are born handsomer and smarter than others and, in fact, no man, and certainly no woman, wants to be "average."

A lively question period followed the lecture, showing the intense interest of Mr. Kelley's listeners, no matter what their own feelings about ideals in today's world.

ANITA K. BLY

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## SOUTHERN DISTRICT

THIS YEAR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT was divided into six regions, each holding a separate meeting. Many people have felt that with a majority of the CLA members living in the south one meeting for the district was too large and unwieldy. The advantages seem to be that small regional meetings will attract many who might not travel a long distance, and also that there will be greater participation by more members. It might be termed a "grass roots" experiment.

THE SANTA MONICA-LOS ANGELES REGION met at the Hotel Monica in Santa Monica on February 27 with Hilda Glaser, president of the Southern District, presiding. The program was centered on library service to students, with morning and afternoon panel discussions moderated by Raymond Holt, Pomona City Librarian. Members of the morning panel discussed "The Challenge of the 60's: Adequate Service to Students." Speakers were Dr. Fred Zannon, Assistant Superintendent, Santa Monica Unified School District; Mrs. Sylvia Ziskind, Librarian, Bellflower High School; and Mrs. Edith Bishop, Co-ordinator, Work with Young Adults, Los Angeles Public Library. Dr. Zannon stressed the need for a factual rather than an emotional approach to the subject, and suggested ways in which schools and libraries might cooperate. Mrs. Ziskind spoke of changes in the curriculum, especially the enriched curriculum for gifted children. Mrs. Bishop gave the results of a survey of student use of the Los Angeles Public Library and its branches. The panel was followed by questions and comments from the floor about in-service training for teachers, longer hours of service for school libraries and photo-copying of library materials to prevent mutilation.

(Please turn to page 177)



# Literature in the Space Age

by RAY BRADBURY

A NUMBER OF YEARS AGO I wanted to do a short story about the destruction of the world. I began to think about why I should care whether the world was destroyed or not and I started to make a list of all the things I thought were worth keeping: those things I wanted to have survive. And by the time I was done making the list, I realized that I'd written down everything in terms of books over a period of centuries. There's Plato and Shakespeare and Shaw and all of my heroes down through time and I suddenly realized that the age of space is one of the most fantastic and one of the most exciting ages and to participate in this age is a great responsibility. Why do I say this? Because we've been preparing ourselves for a billion years for the steps we're going to be taking in the next two or three or ten years.

We've had a long fight, out of the sea to begin with, and we finally got out of the sea onto the land; we got into the trees, we got into the caves, we came out of the caves and over a period of thousands of years we've prepared ourselves with our mythologies and our religions and our talk of mankind finally being free of this terrible villain, gravity, and our bondage to this one planet, earth. And finally, now in our time, our tremendously exciting time, we're going off into space on a tremendous voyage of survival. And this is the thing that excites me so much about science fiction.

I cut my teeth on Buck Rogers, I read Flash Gordon when I was twelve, I went through the Edgar Rice Burroughs phase, then I began to read the science fiction of Wells, and Aldous Huxley, and right on up through the years I've been continually excited by what science fiction can do for us. The very convenient and very exciting way of working with the ideas of the world.

You know we've played it terribly safe in most literature it seems to me, the last ten or fifteen years. We had a bit of trouble there at one time with Mr. McCarthy and luckily that period is gone. But in the midst of that time quite a few ideas got into science fiction. I was able to sit down myself and write the book *Fahrenheit 451*, which had to do with book-burning in the future in terms of firemen who go to houses to start fires rather than to put them out and to use books as fuel for these fires. Time and again we find in history that in times of crisis fiction can be a way of handling ideas and handling them so that most people don't know you're talking about them. I had no trouble with Mr. McCarthy at any time after this book came out and yet I consider it a direct attack against the sort of thing he stood for.

I've also been amused to hear that the book has sold 500,000 copies in a pirated edition in Russia during the last two years. I don't know why they

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published it because it's a book that also attacks the sort of tyranny that occurs in a country like Russia. I've heard that once they published the book, they found out that I indirectly meant them, also, and that the book has gone underground and I'm sort of a science-fictional Boris Pasternak over there at this time.

I got a cable from the Minister of Cultural Affairs in Moscow about three months ago saying, "Could you please contribute an idea whereby we can improve cultural relationships between Russia and the United States." And I immediately cabled him back, "On the day you pay me the rubles you owe me from the pirated edition, cultural relationships will automatically go up one thousand per cent." I don't suppose that was the bright thing to do, but I do rather resent having my book taken away from me and run off with. In fact, these people have magnificent nerve—I really do admire it. They wrote me several months ago and asked me to send them a copy of my latest book so they could steal it. I turned this rather puzzling communication over to my agents to see what they wanted to do about it.

During the next hundred years we're going to see vast upheavals in libraries, reflecting, for instance, the new attitudes of lawyers, as the whole area of space law is investigated. Who owns the moon? What kind of trouble are we going to get into if Russia gets there first, or we get there first and make a claim? Is this going to be handled through the United Nations? How do you consider the property values and how do you delineate the property rights of people as far as meteoroids, asteroids and other planets in our system go? Are we going to treat the "people"—the creatures on other worlds that we come upon—the same way we treated the Indians when we came to America? Are we going to repeat the same errors about land, and minerals, or have we learned? Are we going to be humane about this?

The great medical challenge of the coming fifty years certainly faces us. The first Martians we're probably going to meet when we land on Mars are the bacterial life forms. We have to make do with them first. The first team of men we send to Mars should probably be a team of medics, who will then examine the atmosphere, find out what virulent strains of bacterial life there are, what viruses might possibly afflict us. Then, after we have made peace with these invisible Martians, there'll be time enough to consider any other life forms that happen to be there which will be far less hostile to us. So we have this huge medical problem of space travel.

## II

One of the leading questions often asked a writer is, "How do you get your ideas?" Quite often reading books of essays, or books or poetry I'll come across a line and I'll seize that line and run off with it in my teeth and write a story. But in one particular case on a given day I wasn't feeling too creative really, so I decided to try word association. I sat down at my typewriter and I typed the first two words that came to my mind, and these words happened to be "the nursery." So I thought to myself, "Why have I given myself the gift of these



two words? What kind of nursery?" So I immediately decided, well, why not a nursery forty years from now, in the future? What kind of nursery would it be? The response came: a nursery in the future, a playroom, might easily be a room with wall-to-wall television. The ceiling would also have this tremendous eye looking down upon you. You then add to this odor, sound, three-dimensional effects, color, and then when a child walks into the environment of this room, I thought, he could ask for any gift he wanted—a visual gift—and automatically that room would transport him there.

So in a period of minutes, then, from the putting down of the words "the nursery," I had given myself back an answer to the kind of nursery I wanted to write about. So then I said, well, I must begin the story. I should take sides about the nursery. I'll introduce two characters and see what happens. So I then had a husband coming home from work and his wife says, "George, I wish you'd look at the nursery." He says, "What's wrong with it?" She says, "I think it's broken. Let's go look." They walk into the nursery and he stands there, looks around, and he's completely surrounded by African veldt-land. Off in the distance are these proud, wonderful tapestries of lions feeding under the trees, and he can't quite see what they're feeding on. There's a sun glaring down from overhead and an intense feeling of heat and isolation and he's very uneasy about it. His wife says, "The room has been this way for four weeks. It won't change. It's Africa, Africa, Africa every day. I want you to talk to the children about it. It makes me very unhappy." So when the children come he says, "You know, let us have something else in this room for a change. I mean, why not South America, or Paris, or name another part of the world." And they promise to be good, but the room increasingly becomes more and more African. The lions begin to draw closer and closer and they're feeding every day and roaring half the night, and finally the husband says to these belligerent children that he's going to shut off the room. That's the end of it; he's had too much.

He realizes very late in the game that the room has displaced the parental relationship completely: that the *room* is the mother, the *room* is the father to these two children; that the parents no longer have anything to say about anything in the house; everything is that room. So when he threatens to turn off the room the children throw a tantrum and one of them says, "You can't kill it; you can't *do* that to the room!" And he realizes the case has really gone too far, that they think of the room as a human entity, as a real being, a real part of their lives.

So he shuts the room off and that night the children tamper with the room. In the middle of the night the mother and father wake up, hear screams from below, run down, run into the room, the door slams and is locked from the outside, they turn, they're alone in the room, the mother and father, they hear the children outside and they yell at them to let them out, and they turn and when they turn the African lions come running across the veldt land, take one titanic leap, come out of the walls and eat the parents up. That's the end of the story.

Now I think you can tell me what I was up to with that story. And the won-



derful thing about it is that I sold the story to the *Saturday Evening Post*. I was being *really* subversive: I was actually criticizing many of the advertisements they have in the back of the *Post* with this story that I had up in the front of the *Post*. And for my quasi-intellectual friends who over the years have made fun of the *Post* and say it doesn't publish off-beat stories, literary stories, idea stories—I always point to this as an example of a magazine going out of its way to publish an unusual tale regardless of content.

Because actually I was saying, "Parents, look around. What's going on in your house? When was the last time you developed the muscles in your wrists by going over to the TV set and making a little motion like *that*?" But I find that many people suffer from TV arthritis when it comes to making any move at all—they're sort of riveted to their chairs. They're staring at each other continually and only on Sundays does anything sort of go back and forth between the viewer and the set itself. So I had great fun then, undermining an American institution.

Now try to do this story in a conventional framework with conventional people, with a conventional approach and suddenly you're on a podium, the whole thing is self-conscious, and nobody wants to read it. That's why I love working in the science fiction field. It enables you to make a very convenient package of things, put them under one label, and you can forget about it. I didn't have to come right out and say I was criticizing TV, and criticizing parents' responsibility: it happened in the story. The remarkable thing about science fiction is that it does this time and again. You can grab the symbol then, run with it, deal with it very relaxedly, have fun with it. Any other way you become a man with a soapbox, with something to put over on the public.

### III

I believe in the joy of writing, the fun of writing. I believe in writing for myself and having a great time with it. And in order to do this I not only travel into the future, but I like to go back to 1928 Illinois in my home town of Waukegan, where I lived until I was thirteen. Over a period of twelve years I've done many short stories laid in this small town. A typical idea is the story that I got riding on a bus a few years ago. A boy ran down the street, jumped on this bus, threw his money into the coin-box, ran down the aisle and flung himself into his seat with fantastic energy. I looked at him and thought, "Oh, isn't that remarkable? Isn't that wonderful to see? I wonder what his secret is, over and above his glands, and youth, and what have you?"

Then I looked down at his feet and on his feet was this wonderful set of brand new, marshmallow-white, ice-cream-colored tennis shoes. And they looked so springy and bouncy, and as he sat there his feet sort of wiggled in these tennis shoes, and I could feel the lightning of the earth sort of coming up through him and after a few blocks he jumped off the bus and ran off down the street like a gazelle. And I said, "Of course! I remember what it was—in May or June every year of my life from the time I was four or five—to go downtown and buy the first pair of brand new tennis shoes of each year, because it meant that



once you got those shoes on your feet that for a week at least you're able to bound over rivers, leap over houses, and even jump over bushes and dogs. And then, after a week perhaps, gravity began to pull down on you more, but you're still able to run away from your enemies and run towards your friends, and run through summer with great zest and gusto. All because of the gift of these shoes." And I thought, I must do a story, then. It's nothing more than a story of a boy wanting a pair of shoes, and all the Indian earth and the sense of the electricity of the turning world in these shoes.

So then I did the story and it became a part of *Dandelion Wine*. The whole sense of a boy discovering that remarkable thing that we all have on one day of our life, when we look around and we say, "Why, I'm alive. How wonderful it is. I'm alive." And then, maybe a year or so after that, the terrible realization that one can die. I wanted to put all of these things into one book about a boy's summer, with all the discoveries, the revelations, and the excitements.

So you see, I try to keep myself balanced. Not only writing science fiction, but going into the past and trying to dredge up things out of my own experience. And quite often the people in my Illinois stories sort of cross-pollinate the people in my Martian stories of the future. I find whole families of people from 1928 showing up in the year 2000 and helping to colonize Mars.

#### IV

I've done several stories about the situation with the colored people on earth. In one, I took the easy way out. I did a story called "Way in the Middle of the Air," which is a story of all the white people in the South, one day, finding out that all the colored people have finally had it up to here, just had it up to here. So they've all built rocket ships and they're *all* going off to Mars. There'll be no colored people left in the South to work the fields, tote the barge, lift the bale, and the white people are all going to have to get out and do that work themselves. I think it's a lovely idea. I think some whites deserve it. And they're outnumbered, you know, in the average Southern town: it quite often happens that it's fifty-two per cent colored and forty-eight per cent white, or even more. So if you pull out half the people in a given town, that town's in trouble. I delighted in provoking this situation and, as I say, it's the easy way out. It's not going to happen, and I don't want it to happen now (I'm a few years older), but I did have fun at the time writing that story.

Then I wrote a sequel to it called, "The Other Foot." In this, the Negro people are settling on Mars and building their own civilization. They're suddenly faced by the fact that across space is coming a rocket ship and it's full of white men. There's been a titanic war on earth, hydrogen war, almost everyone is dead—all the people they originally hated and had grudges against. And the white men land and say, "Take us in and we'll do anything." And, of course, a lot of the colored men were remembering the things they'd gone through as children on earth, they run around and say, "Let's paint all the balcony sections for the whites and let's put up ropes and mark doors, and we'll let them in our culture, but they'll have to wait on table and shine shoes." And one of the



men is wise enough to stand up and say, "Look, the shoe *is* on the other foot now, but unless we act better than they acted when the shoe was on their foot we don't deserve to survive." So at the very end they offer equal opportunity to the white people and take them in. So here again, dealing with a local problem but putting it a few years in the future makes it a little easier to handle in terms of big motions and big symbols.

## V

I'm writing a sequel to *Dandelion Wine* now and I'm writing a fantasy novel. I've been working on it about six years. It has to do with the central problem of all our lives—the problem of good and evil and the problem of aging with grace, of getting older and facing up to inevitable death with grace, the whole problem of why one should bother to be good or not good. But I think I'll always handle these things in terms of fantasy because the average—forgive me for saying this; maybe you'll all disagree with me—the average American novel is too long and too boring and too repetitive and too clinical and I don't believe it's writing at all. It's *reportage* of the worst sort and I go to sleep at the end of the second page. I believe that the real, for me anyway, the real job of a writer is to measure the difference between things as they are and things as they should be. And that's the measuring stick most imaginative writers over thousands of years have used: the dream of man, the disillusionment, the reality, all these things that are constantly moving in a circle through our consciousness.

It's a difficult thing, keeping our equilibrium in this world, but I don't want to do it through the realistic approach because I have found, more often than not, impure *reportage* over the years. I spent eight months with John Huston in Ireland working on *Moby Dick*, and I think I got to know him fairly well. I discovered a remarkable thing: those articles that appeared on him in the *New Yorker* about seven years ago by Lillian Ross are a fiction—pure fiction. But the *novel* that came out on John Huston, which is sixty per cent fiction, is the *truth*! It's a very strange thing, but when you live with a man, when you live an experience, you collect intuitive things about him as well as factual things. There are many facts you can't put your hand on. There's no way of really describing human character, of getting to the secret of a strange, wild man like John Huston. So you've got to rely on your intuition to do a lot of the work for you. Say that he came into a room, wore a tweed cap, smoked, drank, said this or that—it doesn't work. It just doesn't work at all. So I guess I'll stick pretty generally the rest of my life with fantasy and with science fiction. I'm happy in it, it's comfortable and a very exciting way to write.

And besides, the Space Age is here, and like it or not it will take us where it is going. If we hold back, It will drag us kicking anyway. So I'd prefer to run just a little ahead, with my science-fiction, to see the long way, the exciting way, the inevitable way for us and our children. Any child can read tomorrow's compass, it points in just one direction: UP. And already they're on their way.



# The Public Image of the Librarian

by JOHN D. GERLETTI

AS A TRUSTEE of a public library and as a professor of public administration who has worked with many professional associations and groups, I have become aware of four major trends which underline the essential role which librarians play today in our complex society. We have heard a great deal about the distinctions between censorship and selection, but I should like to suggest another way of defining the differences.

It does not matter to me whether you call it selection or censorship, but the librarian is doing a major service for society in separating the more useful from the less useful in all subjects, at a time when publishing has proliferated to a tremendous extent. Such selection and rejection by professionally-trained persons is a necessary process for all levels of the reading public. It should be noted, moreover, that the spreading of the selection process among libraries of all types and geographical location is a safeguard built into the present organization of libraries to protect the public. A "precaution" in one set of circumstances may be corrected within the next jurisdiction.

A second major service which the library performs is in supplying an antidote to the controlled mass media. We all know that there is less and less competition in the publication of newspapers and in other mass media, and that the news we receive is "controlled" in many ways. This is not necessarily a planned program of control but a phenomenon of our highly organized culture. In a democracy, the citizen must have access to points of view which newspaper, radio, and television do not represent adequately. Any publisher has a perfect right to put his own point of view across and to exercise his own editorial policy in the dissemination of his publication. As a citizen, I too have the right to do my own research, and I need a free public library in which to do it. Ideas must be allowed to emerge from many sources in the democratic process, and the library is centrally important in an era when the mass media are controlled by a group of like-minded people.

A third major fact of modern society which makes the library a vital force is that the world is growing smaller, and a great deal of the information which we carry around in our heads is out of date. Geographical and historical materials are vital to the hundreds of thousands of Americans who are now and who will be increasingly traveling and living around the world. It is obvious that those Americans who are best informed with up-dated information will serve themselves and their missions best.

Now concerning images of the public library and the librarian, it is my contention that it is up to the librarian to determine in what image he is held. Other



professional groups have deliberately changed the public image of themselves. Even institutions like the University of Southern California can deliberately change the public's ideas of themselves. USC, for example, was regarded as a Methodist institution for years after it had, in effect, stopped being one. It is now no longer regarded as a religious school. The emphasis on football, with which USC has been identified in the public mind, is now deliberately being lessened by internal policy, and a new image of a great scholarly, academic institution is emerging.

My advice to librarians is to tell the story of the libraries in aggressive, sincere, and forceful ways. Libraries are, after all, in competition with other forces for support by the population. To acquire adequate support, librarians must capture the imagination of the public effectively. To do this effectively, moreover, librarians must first believe in themselves and their program. We know that all services are costly and will become more so, and we also know that the public is willing to pay, and can afford to pay, for whatever services it believes in.

In assessing the makeup of South Pasadena, we have already identified a variety of attitudes, of which I shall mention just a few. The largest group is probably made up of the busy citizens who live in South Pasadena and work elsewhere—people who use the library only occasionally. This group is really unconcerned about the library, schools, civic government, and bears no animosity. They pay their taxes and regard the services purchased with those taxes in a spirit of complacency.

There are the school administrators and personnel who regard the library as an extension of their own province and who gladly allow the public library to do as much of the school's work as it will. There should be a great deal more consultation between librarians and school administrators, so that fair and cooperative lines can be worked out.

There is another group in the community, whom I call emotional sentimentalists, who regard the library as a legitimate area for the "boy meets girl" function. I do not happen to believe that we can afford to allot space and staff time to perpetuate this function.

There are other identifiable groups: the professional persons who use the library and its reference collection knowledgeably; the intelligent reader who does expand his horizons and improve himself by good use of the collection; a large number of persons who read the best sellers; and there are others. We also have with us the "elite" group, a very small, articulate, educated group which systematically attacks and attempts to embarrass all agencies which are in the business of disseminating ideas. It would be wise for us all to have more information than we do about the identity of these individuals, so that we are better prepared to deal with them when they appear.

Finally, I want to make the point that your association has a vital role to play in giving your membership a feeling of security. It is the secure individual who provides the most progressive leadership, and it is the secure group which can move most readily forward.



## Editorial

IT WAS MOST REFRESHING, after gorging ourselves on kind words and compliments, to cleanse our palates during National Library Week on the acidulous remarks of Professor Howard Mumford Jones in his guest editorial for the *Saturday Review*.

I think the public librarians might be more successful in their campaign to hold the line on reading if their professional training included more excitement about the insides of books and less technological lore about what to do with the book as an object in space. A librarian too often resembles a headwaiter showing one to a table in a large restaurant and too little resembles an artist having profound and passionate views of life, death, and immortality. But this is to make impossible (though justified) demands.

Professor Jones has in mind the climate which prevails in all too many libraries. Although few librarians light up at the thought of teaching another patron to use the card catalog, we have somehow managed to give the public the impression that this is our chief role. If he knows what he wants, the patron will not hesitate to ask a librarian where it is kept; when he has only a vague idea of what he needs, or indeed if he has not yet really formulated his question, he wouldn't dream of interrupting the librarian, who is so conspicuously busy.

The profession attracts to it a large number of withdrawn people. They often have a profound, if not so often passionate, view of life, death, and immortality. The role of the librarian is changing, however, and with the change a more vigorous kind of recruit is entering the profession.

During the first period of public library development, librarians held the naïve view that, given the opportunity, the average person not only could but would raise his own literary taste. He would, we believed, be attracted to the library by inferior fiction, and be led to more serious stuff by simple propinquity. More and more this view is being discarded in favor of a recognition of the need for giving guidance to readers.

While there is still many a public library which simply responds to the demands of its constituency for entertainment, a great many consciously set out to raise the cultural level of the community. A notable trend is the provision by many libraries of a "Readers' Advisor"—a librarian who can respond to the mention of a book you have liked with the titles of a half-dozen others you will quite probably enjoy. When the Readers' Advisor's proper role is recognized and supported, he has the opportunity to read widely in many fields, reflect on what he has read, and greet the serious reader with an informed enthusiasm.

Behind the Readers' Advisors stand other echelons of librarians—those who select the books, those who procure them, and those who organize them so that



they can be found and used. As is true in so many other areas of life, much planning and more work must be done before the desired event can be consummated. But, more and more, librarians are putting into orbit that object in space.

## Contributors

ELISABETH OLNEY ANDERSON was born in Berkeley, California, and graduated from the University there. She has taught elementary school, and is now living in Berkeley with her husband, Oakland attorney Robert L. Anderson, and their two children. Mrs. Anderson has been active in such groups as the Friends of the Library, Family and Children's Service of Berkeley, and the Berkeley Health and Visiting Nurse Association.

RAY BRADBURY considers himself primarily a short-story writer. At the Pacific Coast Writers Conference this year he advised his audience to write a short story each week, and only after having sold many stories to try their hands at the novel form. Mr. Bradbury's forthcoming book is, *Something Wicked This Way Comes*.

PAUL CUNNINGHAM has been on the Library Board of the San Marino Public Library for six years. He is the Vice President and General Manager of the Lake-Colorado Branch of the Security First National Bank.

JOHN D. GERLETTI, JR., teaches in the School of Public Administration, University of Southern California, at which institution he took his Ed.D. He is on the Library Board of South Pasadena.

RAY E. HELD, Assistant Professor of Librarianship, University of California, Berkeley, has also taught at Emory, Texas, and Oklahoma. His field is the history of libraries.

ALBERT CHARLES LAKE was born in Vancouver, B.A., British Columbia, and received his certificate in librarianship from U. C., Berkeley. He is the librarian of the Riverside County Library, which this year won a John Cotton Dana award for "a determined, courageous stand on a basic issue—censorship."

ALLEN LAWS will be leaving the Library Board of the San Marino Public Library, having been recently elected to the City Council. He is the Manager of Commercial Services for the Southern California Edison Company.

GEORGE MAGLADRY, librarian of the Humboldt County Library, is the new President of the Redwood District, having moved up early replacing Carlyle Parker, who has taken a position in Hawaii.

MARY ROGERS SMITH was the Children's Librarian at the New York Public Library and is now the Coördinator of Children's Services for the Los Angeles County Public Library. She is President of the Children's and Young People's Section.





## TAYLOR & TAYLOR, Printers

*Ned, more venturesome than the rest, walked to the very edge of the precipice.*

*"Ugh! if a fellow should fall in there," he muttered.*

*At that instant the ground beneath his feet crumbled away and he was precipitated into the depths below! The water rushed over him and Ned disappeared!*

*"My God!" cried the Captain, rushing to the bank.*

*To be Continued!*

So ended an episode in the stirring tale, "How Two Boys Discovered the Diamond Mines of Mountain Island," which ran serially in *The Observer*, a monthly appearing in San Francisco between 1882 and 1886. The author—and, incidentally, the hero of the story—was Edward DeWitt Taylor, who was also printer, editor, and, at the age of eleven, founder of the journal. Working first with a small platen press, and later a Pearl and then a Peerless press, the young Taylor set type for his stories and articles without benefit of copy, composing the type as he composed the sentences. The amateur printer established premises in a shed behind the family home, and solicited occasional job work with a sign out front which read, "Printing in the Rear."

From this early venture ultimately came the firm of Taylor & Taylor, the San Francisco house having the longest history of Western fine printers. The practice of the craft of printing led to a devotion to printing as a fine art. *A Statement of the Policy of This House*, issued in 1916 and adhered to ever since, emphasized the dependence of good bookmaking upon good typography, and



the firm is noted for having introduced into California the use of many new type faces. It has designed and printed books for sixty-four years, gaining a reputation for the consistently sound quality of art and craftsmanship evident in its work.

Edward DeWitt Taylor founded The E. D. Taylor Company in 1896; two years later he became the associate of D. S. Stanley, a printer in San Francisco since 1878, and the name became The Stanley-Taylor Company. A brother, Henry H. Taylor, joined the enterprise upon graduating from Stanford in 1901. In 1911, the firm was reorganized to include John Henry Nash, an associate on a service contract, and the firm was then called Taylor, Nash & Taylor. The following year Henry Taylor went to Harvard to begin a two-year study of typography under Daniel Berkeley Updike. In 1915 the firm name was changed to Taylor & Taylor.

James W. Elliott joined Taylor & Taylor in 1932. After the death of Henry Taylor in 1937 and the retirement of Edward Taylor in 1946, Mr. Elliott acquired the firm in partnership with Robert W. Washbush and Daniel Buckley. At the same time, the printing plant and business offices were moved from their old address at 404 Mission Street to its present location at 246 First Street. Four years ago Mr. Buckley retired and his stock interest was purchased by the two remaining proprietors, James Elliott, president and manager, and Robert Washbush, vice president and art director. In keeping with the firm's traditional practice, all design, composition, and presswork is credited to Taylor & Taylor, rather than to individual craftsmen.

Taylor & Taylor undertakes the designing and printing of books, and only rarely serves as a publisher. Fine works have been produced for such organizations as the Society of California Pioneers, the Book Club of California, the Bohemian Club, the Sierra Club, and the San Francisco Art Association, as well as for private individuals, trade publishers, museums, colleges, and associations. Perhaps less known to bibliophiles are the examples of commercial printing—business histories, annual reports, house magazines, and advertising brochures—which have earned for Taylor & Taylor the high respect of California corporations.

The first book printed for the Book Club of California, dating back to John Henry Nash's association with the press, was Robert



Ernest Cowan's *Bibliography of the History of California and the Pacific West*, published in 1914. In later years Taylor & Taylor printed the Club's *Quarterly News Letter*. The Huntington Library commissioned the production in 1924 of *Documents Relating to New Netherland, 1624-1626*, edited by Arnold J. F. van Laer. The diary of Sterling F. B. Clark was issued privately in 1929 as *How Many Miles from St. Jo?* For many years the firm printed the *Sierra Club Bulletin*, and in 1934 it produced the Club's edition of Walter A. Starr's *Guide to the John Muir Trail*.

A score of Taylor & Taylor imprints have been selected for exhibition in the annual *Western Books* competition held by the Rounce & Coffin Club. Among these have been: *Doctor Johnson's Prayers*, with an introduction by Elton Trueblood, published by James Ladd Delkin in 1945; *Fourscore and Ten Years: A History of Mills College*, by Rosalind A. Keep, printed in 1946 for Mills College; *California Adventure*, a translation of part of the nineteenth-century Chilean classic, *Recuerdos del Pasado*, by Vicente Perez Rosales, issued in 1947 by the Book Club of California; David Warren Ryder's *Memories of the Mendocino Coast*, of 1948; Paul Elder's edition in 1950 of *The House in Mallorca*, by Ernest Ingold; and *The Pageant of History in Northern California*, a volume of fifty-eight photographs by Ansel Adams with text by Nancy Newhall, printed for the American Trust Company in 1954.

In the American Institute of Graphic Arts' annual exhibitions of its choices of the *Fifty Books of the Year*, a representative number of examples from the presses of Taylor & Taylor have been honored by inclusion, as well as in the companion "Printing for Commerce" selections. In the early years, entries were likely to be volumes of verse or Grove plays of the Bohemian Club. More recent works receiving awards in the national and in the *Western Books* shows include such items as *This Sudden Empire—California*, printed in 1950 for the Society of California Pioneers, and *George Clymer and the Columbian Press*, by Jacob Kainen, issued the same year jointly by the Book Club of California and the Typophiles, and inspired in part by the Columbian Press on display in Taylor & Taylor's library. National and Western honors were given also to the Book Club's 1958 publication, *The Voyage of The Racoon*, edited by John A. Hussey. More than one hundred awards have



been granted to Taylor & Taylor entries in the competitions held by the two societies.

An exhibit of rare books at the Golden Gate International Exposition of 1940 included three entries from Taylor & Taylor. *A Landsman's Voyage to California*, by Joseph Kendall, was printed in 1935, and in 1939 Edward Taylor issued his own work, *Across The Years and Other Verse to M.G.T.* The third volume, *Types, Borders and Miscellany of Taylor & Taylor*, also of 1939, is one of the finest type specimen books ever printed. Its 563 pages illustrate the major type faces used by the press, and the text for each example, rather than employing the random quotations and non-sense phrases usually found in specimen books, describes briefly the derivation and best uses of the type in which it is set. This book was also exhibited in the national and Western book shows.

One of the latest books from the press is the third volume of Carl I. Wheat's *Mapping the Transmississippi West*, published in 1959 by the Institute of Historical Cartography. Volume One was printed two years earlier by the Grabhorn Press, followed by Volume Two from Taylor & Taylor in 1958. The set will ultimately run to five folio volumes. Multiple awards have already been given to Edwin and Robert Grabhorn, for superb book designing, and to the Grabhorn Press and Taylor & Taylor, for excellent presswork.

Frederic W. Goudy designed Taylor & Taylor's emblem in 1915. Although we do not know what models he may have used, or, indeed, whether he had any other designs in mind at all, it seems likely that the double-barred "T" with entwining amper-sand, placed in a floral field, owes some debt to the traditional printer's device of a double-barred cross set atop a circle or a pattern of initials. Such marks, of similar proportions and detail, even to the formal style of floral background, may be found particularly in the books of French and Spanish printers of the late fifteenth and early sixteenth centuries.

RICHARD ZUMWINKLE  
*Reference Librarian*

University of California  
Los Angeles



# President's Message

by JUNE E. BAYLESS

AFTER ATTENDING ELEVEN MEETINGS in six districts, I am better able to report to you on the state of librarianship in California than when I took office. This is as it should be, for I have visited many different kinds of libraries—village-branch, small city, metropolitan, and county; and I have traveled from the redwood-rhododendron belt of Northern California to the bristling, bustling, over-populated areas of Southern California.

At the outset of my term, we chose "People: the Reason for Libraries" as our theme. It was consequently very heartening to discover that in every case our California librarians had planned their programs around a segment of service to their readers, whether small children or senior citizens. This widespread concern for the welfare of the prospective reader puts an effective end to that era which saw the librarian as nothing more than a keeper of books.

Among the topics which most frequently came up for discussion at these meetings were the Fiske report, state aid, and public library service to school students. In the minds of most of our colleagues, this latter is our number one problem, and it was frequently pointed out that school library service is unlikely to improve so long as the public library offers a partial school library program.

Having obtained an over-view of library service throughout the state, it seems to me that the prime lack of individual libraries is a long-term plan for future development and policy of service. This should be worked out jointly by the head librarian, working with the staff, and the governing board of each institution.

The advantages of a long-term plan are two-fold, for such a plan serves both as a protection against the sudden, importunate demand and as a guide for expansion. It answers such questions as: Should a library with an inadequate book collection spend money for records? Should a public library spend 25 per cent of its budget for school service?

While each of our libraries faces individual problems, all of our libraries show growth and our librarians exhibit a creative approach to the development of service. The hospitality which these colleagues afforded me was delightful and heart-warming in the extreme. If they can make each patron feel as welcome as I was made to feel, they will soon usher in a golden age for the libraries of California.

In my turn, I look forward to meeting all of you here in Pasadena, when it will be my privilege to host the C.L.A. conference at the Huntington-Sheraton Hotel October 4 through 8.

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# Books, Buildings, and Benefits

PUBLIC LIBRARIES OF HALF A CENTURY AGO  
AS REPORTED IN THE PUBLIC PRESS OF CALIFORNIA

by RAY E. HELD

TYPICAL OF THE NEWS REPORTS of California libraries in the early weeks of 1910 were these three items from Ferndale: the Public Library released a list of its new books most of which were novels; a new building, made possible by a gift of \$8,000 from Andrew Carnegie, approached completion; the pupils of the High School presented a performance of *Charley's Aunt* for the benefit of the Public Library. Buildings and benefits, as well as books, loomed large in the library news of the early twentieth century; and the newspaper records of these and other library developments have preserved a graphic, if incomplete, picture of the libraries of a past generation.

As well as any year can, 1910 marks the end of one era in California's library history and the beginning of another. By that date municipal libraries, first authorized by state law in 1878, had appeared in all the larger cities and many of the smaller towns. County libraries, on the other hand, were in the first stage of their development as the consequence of the passage in 1909 of a county library law.

Public library service was therefore still chiefly the domain of the municipal libraries, of which there were 122 at the close of 1910. Most of the twelve county library systems established by that time were only a few months old, and some of them were not yet in actual operation. There were also other agencies (66 according to one count) described as subscription libraries; and while they were not tax-supported, these representatives of a once-dominant form of library service were, in effect, the public libraries for many small communities. Completing the picture were approximately 228 traveling libraries—small rotating collections supplied by the State Library to localities without other publicly-supported library service.

Since the city library was the most important form of library service it received the major share of attention from the press.

## II

The two library news items most regularly featured in the newspapers were lists of books and reports of the librarian. Together they offer some insight into the library collections of half a century ago.

The book news was commonly a list of newly-acquired titles, but there were variations from this pattern. In the smaller communities there were instances in which the local editor undertook to print a list of all the books in the

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library, running through several issues of the paper. Only rarely did a newspaper offer its readers annotations of new books, but several papers regularly included notes on selected articles in current issues of magazines. Sometimes the book publicity took the form of subject lists—on gardening or some new interest such as aeronautics.

The reports of the librarian were monthly features, with a fuller account at the end of the fiscal year. Often they appeared in connection with notes about the meetings of the library trustees. The reports were mainly statistical, but they sometimes identified the most popular titles of the moment.

The light novels of the best-selling authors of the day were the books most in demand. Harold Bell Wright's *The Calling of Dan Matthews* and Rex Beach's *The Silver Horde*, which were among the titles acquired by the Fernald Library at the beginning of the year, were then the two most popular books throughout the state according to reports made to the State Library. At the Berkeley Public Library, for example, the three most popular books at the beginning of 1910 were the two novels just mentioned and Gene Stratton Porter's *A Girl of the Limberlost*.

For reporting purposes libraries commonly grouped their books as "fiction," "miscellaneous," and "juvenile." Miscellaneous books were the "more serious" works, including all adult titles not classified as fiction. The group labeled fiction accounted on the average for at least two-thirds of the circulation, although the figure varied considerably from place to place. A Palo Alto editor, commenting on the circulation statistics of libraries in general, reminded his readers that the proportion of fiction was probably close to ninety-five per cent, in view of the poetry and drama among the miscellaneous titles and the fiction in the juvenile collection.

There were frequent observations that the public demanded the "new." In order to meet the insatiable demand for recent novels without consuming all of their limited book funds, libraries were already establishing rental shelves. As most often reported the rental shelf was the "Booklovers' Library," a commercial service supplying recent books on a regular basis.

It seems natural that the demand for recent fiction would have led to problems of exclusion and restriction. The California press of 1910, however, contained relatively little suggestion of controversy over books in the libraries. Incidents of this nature were somewhat more frequent in the immediately preceding years when several novels (of which Elinor Glyn's *Three Weeks* was an outstanding example) presented problems. Altogether the reports of this period clearly indicate that many librarians accepted as part of their duty the protection of readers from "unclean" books, either by not buying them or by restricting their use.

In spite of their preoccupation with light literature, libraries became increasingly aware of the needs of the student and of the serious reader. Fresno, spurred on by criticisms of its collection, acquired an extensive list of works on history, government, and economic problems, and subsequently reported a sizeable increase in the circulation of non-fiction. Riverside announced the



creation of an agricultural department, with a view toward acquiring special strength in a subject of vital interest to the area. Even some of the smaller libraries occasionally called attention to their government documents or their technical books.

Pleas for gifts of books and magazines were common, as were acknowledgements of gifts, but to secure the necessary numbers and kinds of books libraries sought contributions in cash. Money in larger sums came from local firms, clubs, and lodges, and even from individuals, while smaller amounts came from contribution boxes and collections. In Colton, for instance, the fund for children's books benefited from special collections in the churches at the Thanksgiving Day services. When donations were not sufficient, benefit entertainments often aided the book funds.

### III

No other library development was of such general interest for so long a period as a building program. Local philanthropy was sometimes responsible for a town library, as illustrated in 1910 by the dedication of the Dean Hobbs Blanchard Memorial Library in Santa Paula. Usually, however, a new building meant a "Carnegie Library."

Almost half of the towns that supported libraries already had Carnegie buildings, but others were still erecting, planning, or seeking them. The story of a Carnegie building was news for much more than a year, and the press reports covered each stage in the building program, from the beginning of a campaign to secure a donation from Carnegie to the actual opening of the building.

In some cases anticipation of a contribution from Carnegie accompanied the initial plan for organizing a city library, but usually a local library was already in operation, housed in more or less temporary quarters. The moving spirit behind the drive to obtain a permanent building was most often the local women's organization, frequently called the Woman's Improvement Club. Other social and civic groups participated and in some instances the Board of Trade (or Chamber of Commerce) was active in supporting the movement.

Tentative promise of a gift arrived in the form of a brief letter from Carnegie's secretary, setting forth the most important condition upon which the benefactor insisted: a commitment by local authorities to expend annually in support of the library a sum equal to ten per cent of the contribution. When a movement for a building was still in a very early stage the discovery of this restriction cooled the enthusiasm of some of the local supporters and sometimes caused abandonment of the drive.

For a small town a typical gift was \$10,000, but frequently there was expectation of a larger award. Mill Valley, for example, received the customary donation, but some community leaders had hoped to obtain twice that amount through the influence of a county resident who was a personal friend of Carnegie. Larger cities did receive larger grants. Richmond in 1910 opened a library built with a contribution of \$17,500, and more populous cities had al-



ready received sums far in excess of that. On the other hand, smaller towns obtained donations below the usual figure.

Offer of the donation by Carnegie and acceptance of the condition by the city still left two great financial hurdles. Since the award was only for the building, the community found it necessary to supply the site and the furniture. These difficulties occasioned many news accounts.

If the city owned suitable land the building site was not a great problem, but more often than not the authorities found it necessary to buy property. Sometimes voters approved a bond issue for the purpose. In Livermore, for example, the citizens voted bonds for the purchase of a park with the understanding that the park would contain the library. Occasionally a local resident donated land. More often various local organizations and individuals made gifts of money toward a fund for a building site. Even with cash contributions the women's club was compelled to resort to various kinds of benefit entertainments to augment the fund.

Vexing delays commonly marked the planning and construction. If two or more suitable sites were available, location of the library became a matter of controversy. The submission of plans to Carnegie for approval was cause of only minor delay, but the problem of obtaining a satisfactory bid for construction was a serious one. Lowest bids were quite often in excess of the money available. Libraries then altered their specifications and called for bids again, or they supplemented the Carnegie money with local funds from contributions and benefits. The library trustees sometimes drew upon their limited resources to increase the building fund, and such action invariably reduced the money available for furniture and books.

When a community had solved the building problem it faced the matter of equipping its library. The regular funds were usually insufficient, and so again a fund-raising drive occurred, including a series of benefit events.

Occasionally there was opposition to Carnegie's philanthropy, not only because of the conditions attached, but also because of the source of the money. In San Jose (which already had a Carnegie building) a newspaper reflected this opinion when it expressed regret that the people of the city were housing their books in a structure built with the tainted profits of the Steel Trust.

For several towns an exciting event of 1910 was a personal visit from the great philanthropist. In the early part of the year Carnegie was touring California, and he was showered with invitations from the various communities of the state. In Glendale, which did not have a Carnegie building, a newspaper editor believed that a visit to the community of sunshine and flowers would cause Carnegie to "plant" one of his libraries there. In Santa Monica, which did have one, there was hope that the visitor would see the wisdom of an additional grant to enlarge the library.

Carnegie declined most of the invitations, but he did visit several libraries in Southern California and northward along the coastal route to the San Francisco Bay area. According to a statement attributed to Carnegie himself he vis-



ited the Pasadena library under the mistaken impression that the building was his contribution.

In Redlands he toured the Smiley Library. Afterwards, in response to a suggestion of a prominent Redlands citizen that a donation of \$2,500 for the library's Indian collection would constitute an appropriate memorial of his visit, Carnegie granted \$500 for the cause.

#### IV

In addition to the financial support from taxes and from donations the small libraries in particular depended upon the receipts from benefit events. The campaigns for both books and buildings again and again utilized the services of local groups which sponsored plays, concerts, minstrel shows, ice cream and lemonade socials, "Hayseed" balls, and other entertainments.

While such activities aided many municipal libraries, they were even more evident in behalf of the subscription libraries that still served so many localities. These semi-public libraries, which varied greatly in organization and method of support, were usually considered "town" libraries, for their reading rooms were open to the public. The circulation of books, however, was often restricted to those who paid dues or fees.

Martinez was an example of a community in which a library association had maintained a continuous existence for a longer than average period. In 1910 this association publicly celebrated twenty-five years as the town library by burning its note of indebtedness. Helping to make this achievement possible were such activities as a benefit baseball game between the local grocery clerks and a neighboring team and a concert by pupils of a local music teacher.

The library in Fortuna was sustained by eight active members of the Women's Christian Temperance Union who utilized such sources as pledges, a contribution box, library fines, and the sale of post cards, old papers, magazine subscriptions, and homemade bread. They added to their income by renting part of their space to the Socialists, but their chief source of support was a popular monthly clam chowder supper.

#### V

Besides books, buildings, and benefits there were numerous other items related to libraries in the news of 1910. The county libraries made news stories. The promotional activities of Bertha Kumli and Harriet G. Eddy, representatives of the State Library, received coverage as they visited various parts of the state. Opposition to the first county law also made news, being particularly apparent in the press of 1910 from the cities of Los Angeles County.

There were reminders too of the fact that some communities had no town library of any kind. A Brawley newspaper saw some hope that the town's urgent need would be met, in part at least, by the opening of a commercial lending library.

The traveling library supplied by the State Library upon application of five



citizens consisted of fifty books furnished for three months at a time. These collections were housed in stores, newspaper offices, schools, or even private homes. In communities utilizing this service library news consisted of the announcement of receipt of a new collection—or a reminder that borrowers should return their books since it was time to exchange the collection for another.

In greatest amount and variety library news arose from the free town libraries, especially in the smaller places. There were numerous reports of efforts to increase service, including an occasional announcement that a telephone had been installed in the library.

Changes of library hours were among the most common of notices, and more often than not they reported increased hours of opening. A special problem in this connection was the matter of Sunday. Many libraries already maintained some Sunday hours and in communities that did not enjoy this service there was frequently agitation for it.

Libraries proudly reported increased use of their reading rooms, where patrons found not only the late issues of magazines but also a stereopticon with an accompanying collection of travel views. Typical observations of the time took note of the popularity of the reading room during cold weather and of the great number of children of all ages in evidence on Saturday and after school.

Children's hours on Saturday mornings, already well established in large libraries, were more widely adopted; while the opening of a municipal reference branch by the Oakland library represented another kind of specialized service possible in a larger city. Among the most interesting developments at this period was the opening of a men's reading room, usually in the basement of the building, where a working man who would hesitate to use the main reading room could read and smoke, or enjoy a game of checkers by the fireside.

## VI

Statistics indicate that the typical California public library of 1910 would certainly have had no more than 5,000 volumes, and probably would have owned less than half that number. It would quite possibly have had "two employees including the janitor," but might have had only one. Its annual income from taxes would not have exceeded \$3,000, and might well have been no more than \$1,000. Two-thirds of the town libraries would have fallen statistically below the maximum figures just stated.

These numerous small libraries were the ones best covered by the newspapers, for in the small localities the editors offered a more intimate view of their town libraries. In the large cities the library news was usually more routine and was much less revealing of the library's activities. The library most vividly pictured by the newspapers was the small collection, emphasizing fiction, housed in a new Carnegie building utilizing benefits and contributions to supplement its meager income.

The attitude of the newspapers was generally favorable. The library had evidently achieved a status that placed it, as an institution, above the level of ordinary criticism. Although not fully recognized by the town in terms of ade-



quate financial support, it was accepted by the leadership of the community as a necessary civic agency. It was, as one newspaper remarked, an index to both the material and cultural status of a city.

#### NOTE

The statistics utilized here were taken from *News Notes of California Libraries*, 1910 and 1911 issues. Otherwise these impressions of California libraries in 1910 were derived from news reports of the period, found in the newspaper clippings about California libraries that were originally acquired by the California State Library. Beginning in 1906, these clippings are now deposited in the library of the School of Librarianship, University of California, Berkeley.

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The afternoon speakers, who discussed "Meeting Our Challenge," were Mary Tinglof, member of the Los Angeles Board of Education; Everett T. Moore, Head, Reference Department, UCLA; and Harold Hamill, City Librarian of Los Angeles. Mrs. Tinglof spoke on the progress being made in establishing libraries in Los Angeles schools. She pointed out some of the problems: lack of finance, short hours of service, and the need for in-service training of teachers. She suggested that librarians need to be more vocal in their demands. Mr. Moore said the services of the UCLA Library are available to high school students who need them but, with their own large student body, there are many problems. Mr. Hamill spoke of the new ALA Standards for School Libraries, but emphasized that it will be a long time before they are fully realized.

THE SAN DIEGO-IMPERIAL REGION met in San Diego on March 5. Miss Clara Breed was chairman. Neil Morgan, San Diego author and newspaper columnist, chose "A Study in Schizophrenia" as his topic. Comprised of local material, his books have attempted to give background and sense of community identification during this period of the phenomenal growth of San Diego. He is the author of *Crosstown* and *My San Diego*.

THE TRI-COUNTIES REGION met at

the University of California, Goleta campus, on March 11, and consisted of a panel discussion of the Fiske Report. Mrs. Dorthea Nelson, Santa Maria Public Library, spoke from a public librarian's point of view; Miss Olma Bowman, Librarian, Santa Barbara High School, gave the school librarian's point of view; and Mrs. Martha H. Peterson, Head, Acquisitions, University of California at Santa Barbara, spoke from a university librarian's point of view. John E. Smith, Librarian of the Santa Barbara Public Library, was chairman and introduced the speakers. Mrs. Mildred S. Spiller, Ventura County Library, led the discussion by the audience. Afterwards Dr. John D. Gerletti, professor in the School of Public Administration, University of Southern California, spoke on "The Public Image of the Librarian."

Albert Lake, Librarian, Riverside Public Library, was chairman of the INLAND EMPIRE meeting held at the University of California, Riverside, on March 12. The subject was again the Fiske Report.

Howard Rowe, Librarian, San Bernardino Public Library, was the moderator of a panel consisting of Gordon Martin, Assistant Librarian, University of California, Riverside; Lloyd Kramer, Director of Technical Services, Pomona Public Library; Dorothy Traver, Librarian, San Bernardino County Library; and Eldred Jones, Librarian,



Pacific High School, San Bernardino. Mr. Lake, in introducing the subject under discussion, gave a resumé of the report without comment or evaluation. He stated the key question is whether restrictions are being imposed on librarians, or whether self-imposed restrictions threaten the citizen's right to access of reading materials. The panel discussion was followed by a lively question and answer period.

THE LONG BEACH-ORANGE COUNTY REGION, with Harry Rowe, Jr. as chairman, met at the Disneyland Hotel, Anaheim, on March 19. The subject was reference services in libraries. William Emerson, Chairman of the Reference Round Table of CLA, talked on "A Coordinated Reference System for the Orange County-Long Beach Area" and requested that the committee appointed to study this service give a report at the CLA meeting in October. His speech evoked lively discussion. After luncheon Chase Dane, District Librarian, Santa Monica Unified School District, spoke on "Methods of Evaluating a Reference Collection." Mr. Dane's talk was followed by a panel discussion on the same subject with the following librarians participating: Robert Hart, Anaheim Public Library; Katherine Walton, Orange County Public Library; Dorothy Ashby, La Habra High School; Gordon Martin, University of California, Riverside; and Doris Banks, Hughes Aircraft Company, Fullerton.

THE FOOTHILL REGION met at the Pasadena Public Library, March 25, with Edward C. Perry, Chairman. Albert Lake's thoughtful and provocative address—printed elsewhere in this issue—is enthusiastically recommended to all readers. At luncheon Paul Jordan-Smith, author and long-time editor of the Book Review Section of the Los Angeles Times, spoke forcibly for choosing and recommending the best

books in his talk "Book Selection Standards as a Book Reviewer Sees Them." In the afternoon several small groups were formed to discuss various topics suggested by the Fiske Report.

At each of the regional meetings Mrs. Carma Zimmerman described the latest developments at the State Library and Miss June Bayless, CLA president, told of the work of various committees and announced tentative plans for the October Meeting.

MILDRED R. PHIPPS  
*Secretary*

### **GOLDEN GATE DISTRICT**

APPROXIMATELY 250 PEOPLE attended the annual meeting of the Golden Gate District of CLA at the University of San Francisco on April 2. Miss Virginia Ross, District President, served as presiding officer. Miss June Bayless, CLA president, gave a brief report on CLA activities. Mrs. Carma Zimmerman's report on present status and projected plans of the State Library was given by Miss Arlene Hope. David Sabsay, chairman of the Library Development and Standards committee, made a brief progress report on Certification. Richard Dillon, chairman of the Library History Committee, spoke briefly on plans and proposed publications in the field of California library history.

The main feature of the morning program was a speech by Mr. Dillon, "The Saga of Sutro Library." In this extremely interesting talk, Mr. Dillon told something of the life of Adolph Sutro and traced the history of the Sutro Library.

State Senators and Assemblymen were invited to attend the luncheon in order to meet librarians and library trustees from their districts. Unfortunately the press of business in the legislature was such that only a few were

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# Book Selection and Reading

by ALBERT LAKE

I HAVE A FEELING that most librarians in their attitude towards book selection, censorship, and intellectual freedom have been more concerned with the general than the specific, with the ideal rather than the actual. It now seems to me that these are as much moral issues as they are intellectual issues and, as is true of all moral principles, there is a gap between what we profess and what we do. History and the lives of men reveal that knowledge of the good does not necessarily result in right behavior; otherwise, Alcibiades and Commodus, with their opportunity to observe two of the outstandingly virtuous men of all time, should have themselves been paragons of virtue. Marjorie Fiske, in her *Book Selection and Censorship*, presents us with the paradox of librarians who are publicly outspoken in their affirmation of statements defending intellectual freedom and the freedom to read and who are at the same time highly restrictive in their book selection practices.

I, myself, professed these high ideals. I had read not only our contemporaries, but also Milton, John Stuart Mill, and others of the past. I thought I understood the subject in its historical and philosophical contexts. Except for infrequent and easily-handled complaints about individual titles, however, I had not had to face up to the application of these principles in an actual crisis until about one year ago.

I must confess that in this crisis—had I been able to do so—I would have evaded the issues. I would have preferred a quiet handling of the situation to an open public discussion; I did try to keep it from becoming a public matter. Insofar as I acted creditably, I did so emotionally rather than intellectually. Furthermore, the issues were so clearly defined and stated in such an extreme manner that I was not in any real sense faced with a choice. Had the extremist attack been more subtle and the issues more blurred, I am sure that I would have been in greater difficulty and perplexity.

In the year that has followed I have had to think through again the problem of book selection and intellectual freedom, not because there was any reason to deny my earlier affirmations, but because these affirmations had now been tested by the necessity to act. And it is for this reason that I have been impressed, perhaps overly impressed, by Marjorie Fiske's book. My attitude towards it is ambivalent: it both attracts and repels me. I am loath to accept its findings or agree with its generalizations. I listen most willingly to criticisms of the research techniques and sampling methods. And yet I know—I believe we all know—that what she says is true. We knew it before she made her study.

Perhaps what we miss is a sense of balance. Just as we know that there are



timid and restrictive librarians, so we also know within our own experience that there are courageous and uncompromising librarians. These librarians are also in her report. However, they are not her major concern and therefore mention of them is not accompanied with the paeans of praise which would have made the book more palatable. The redeeming hero is not allowed to play his role and thus mitigate the actions and opinions of the less heroic.

Does not the fact that librarians seem to be reluctant to buy her book substantiate her findings? Or are we to assume either widespread lack of information or lack of concern on the part of librarians?

## II

I am concerned because I believe that book selection is the most important library activity. I would not be so extreme as to state that books without readers, actual or potential, is a higher state of blessedness than people without books. But given just a few discerning readers I know what my preference would be.

I also believe that no major library activity is more neglected. Judging from our literature as well as our casual library conversations there is more activity and interest in public relations, library architecture, and administrative matters. I suggest as a possible reason for this, not the personal or professional inadequacies of librarians themselves, but rather the lack of unanimity concerning the purposes of a library or its book collections. We are apparently in complete agreement about the need for public relations. We are all imbued with missionary fervor but we are not equally sure what gospel we should preach or which group of benighted natives we should work with.

We, like all others facing the same dilemmas, can place the blame on society. I am sorely tempted to do this. Society has so many faults and at the same time is so impersonal that one can pleasantly and maliciously indulge in criticism without giving offense.

Unfortunately I can do nothing else but accept our society as it is. Or, to paraphrase Dr. Johnson, by God I had better accept it. Paradoxically, it is the very virtue of our society that is the occasion for our problem—its heterogeneity, the multiplicity of conflicting values and beliefs. Since each and every librarian is the product of this pluralistic culture, it would be too much to expect us to become ideologically like so many peas in a pod.

If librarians cannot agree among themselves as to what should or should not be in a library, upon what authority can the individual librarian rest when explaining his decisions to friendly or hostile critics? There can be no appeal to a received tradition since none exists. Who ultimately sanctions the decision as to whether quality or demand should receive primary emphasis? Whose judgment shall prevail, the layman's or the professional's?

Although no two librarians will be in absolute agreement on book selection practices on the level of specific choices, librarians may be segregated into two schools. Consciously or not, and with varying degrees of consistency, they adhere to one or the other of two major and contradictory beliefs. For purposes



of simplification we may designate them quality-oriented and demand-oriented. I am not going to try to reconcile these two schools. It will suffice to say that the more conscious and coherent of either school have several cogent arguments and that this schism in our ranks is as difficult to bridge as similar schisms in educational theory or theology.

In the context of selection and censorship, both schools have dilemmas arising from the pluralistic nature of our society and the dependence of the library upon popular support. It is simple and pat to claim value as the sole criterion in the selection of any given title. I know of no tax-supported public library, however, which has consistently used value as the sole criterion. All have bought significant numbers of books on the basis of popular demand. I am, of course, avoiding any attempt to define what is meant by value. Nevertheless, I would deny that a subjective value which a book might have for a demanding reader can satisfy an objective book-selector. To accept such an argument drains all meaning from the concept of value.

Hypothetically, a public library which was rigorously value-oriented could lose popular support, which would in turn result in diminishing budgets, a demand to replace the librarian, or some other pressure to restore the equilibrium between value and demand. Whether this would actually happen I cannot say.

### III

Once the library has made its concession to popular demand it can no longer rely solely upon quality as a convincing argument for the inclusion or exclusion of books. If the library does not distinguish between the innocuous good book and the innocuous poor book, can it distinguish between the sexy good book and the sexy poor book? Furthermore, if the librarian compromises his own standards by admitting the indefensible popular book, may he not also compromise his intellectual freedom standards by excluding the unpopular?

The difficulty with the word "quality" is that like the word "truth" it is incapable of being defined with any universally accepted meaning. I am not suggesting that its meaning is entirely arbitrary. Nevertheless, meanings shift from one segment of society to another, from one social group to the next, from the products of one school of education to another and, I dare say, from one type of glandular or psychosomatic constitution to another. Quality standards are upheld by a consensus, and there is a dominant consensus of literary, artistic, cultural and other values which by and large has formed our tastes and judgments and has offered us exemplars. Unfortunately, this consensus, though dominant, constitutes a minority. Compared to another consensus, which places greater value on Norman Rockwell than on Georges Braque, on Edgar Guest than on W. H. Auden, it is most definitely a minority voice. To place one's faith in and base one's actions on the creed of a minority elite runs counter to the democratic dogma. A thoroughgoing intellectual equalitarianism would equate one man's liking for *Peyton Place* with another's love for Joyce's *Ulysses*. The problem is further complicated by the fact that few, if any, librarians are



brought up exclusively in one tradition of values. More likely than not, in our highly mobile social structure, the librarian is exposed to one set of values at an early stage in his life and to another at a later time, and so becomes a culturally dichotomized person.

#### IV

The reason I am going into this is because of the difficulty of explaining to intelligent members of the lay public why the traditional and accepted standards of one group in our society should prevail in book selection. The explanation is made more difficult still if one attempts to show how orthodoxy can embrace the unorthodox. As a profession we have agreed that both heresy and orthodoxy have a place on the library's shelves. But is it possible to develop any selection procedures which will not seem to resolve themselves into arbitrary choices, at least to the person whose favorite heretical work has been excluded? I wonder if we do not ignore those heresies whose proponents are few, or which are overwhelmingly and vehemently opposed by the orthodox majority.

The demand-oriented librarian argues that he acts in the capacity of agent for the public. Ignoring the historical fact that public libraries were not the response to overwhelming popular demand, but rather were the creation of a few, he hypothecates this public demand. Assuming the taxpayer's willingness to support public libraries, he further assumes that the taxpayer does so for conscious and well-defined reasons. Therefore, the *raison d'être* of the library is to be sought, not in the purpose of its founders or the library profession, but in the explicit purposes of the general public.

His reasons are empirical or a posteriori. Ideally, every patron demand would be met without the librarian's interposing his judgment. Each citizen is a philosopher-king, and there are no priorities of value. The needs of the barely literate are equated to those of the highly literate, since each is a joint stockholder. Unfortunately, that ideal situation does not exist; if it did, book selection could be done by an electronic computer. The skillful practitioner of this kind of book selection becomes a master in predicting the popular demand for each title.

In the context of book selection and censorship, the librarian also has to chart his way between Scylla and Charybdis. As an agent does he serve that part of the library's public which demands the sensational or the portion which considers all such works an abomination in the eyes of God and all decent people? He can with uniform consistency refuse to buy all books which are questionable, or choose the expedient of the restricted shelf. According to Miss Fiske, librarians in California resort to both practices.

#### V

I doubt whether any librarian is a thoroughgoing adherent of one school or the other. It is rather a matter of emphasis. It is my impression that whatever book selection may be in theory, in practice it embraces varying degrees of com-



promise. Once compromised, the librarian is hard pressed to prove that some of his decisions are more than arbitrary.

I would like to suggest that our actions are determined more by faith than by any logically-deduced system. Once we recognize that our actions are motivated by faith, we can better comprehend our personal responsibilities.

Almost every article of the library faith has some difficulty withstanding cold analysis. Take, for example, the matter of presenting both sides of controversial issues. How valid is such a policy and how universally adhered to in libraries? Are not some subjects, such as the roundness of the earth or the Copernican theory in astronomy entitled to stand unopposed? Is it that these matters are no longer controversial, or is it that any dissent is so trivial and minor that for any practical purpose it can be ignored? When does a matter become controversial? Must we again resort to arithmetic and establish a minimum number of adherents before a view is recognized? Is it relevant that the proponents of fluoridization are eminently respectable and numerous whereas their opponents are not?

This, of course, introduces the subject of pressure groups. Any group of like-minded individuals which is critical of the library, or which attempts to change its policies, may be regarded as a pressure group. However, that term is commonly used to connote a group which uses stronger methods than persuasion. At the moment it encompasses those groups which reflect an extreme conservative position on social, political, or other matters. Attributed to these groups is a tendency to use intimidation, partial truths, and name-calling. Where the civic organizations and political leaders of a community are indifferent to intellectual freedom, such groups are and have been effective. In many cases the library is a side issue; it provides a diversion in what is otherwise a generalized and confused program.

The avowed goals of such groups are not necessarily the real reason for their being. Typical of these avowed purposes are a constitutional revision which will remove powers from the federal government and return them to the states; the reduction of communistic and socialistic influences; the elimination of the graduated income tax. The real motives would seem to be a dislike for paying taxes. There are also often strong undertones of anti-Semitism. Almost every social change during this century is condemned as communistic or socialistic and every participant in the change as a communist or socialist. Much has been written to suggest that these groups are symptomatic of a maladjusted society. Eric Hofer's *The True Believer* will give fairly clear insight into the type of person most attracted to these extremist societies.

Miss Fiske suggests that these groups are not so effective as many librarians fear them to be. While there is real need to be on guard and informed, timidity is not the answer. These groups themselves know they are not effective; they recognize themselves as a minority. In fact their mood is almost paranoiac. They claim we believe in intellectual freedom for those ideas we espouse and deny it for those we despise. We, not they, are the true censors. Further discussion is futile. It is of no avail to suggest that the books they advocate are scur-



rilous, defamatory, or distortions of the truth and that this is the real reason for their exclusion.

## VI

By what right or authority do librarians select books? By what right or authority is the librarian entitled to take an unequivocal stand in matters of selection? The problem is as old as Plato's time. One might well ask by what authority does a conductor lead an orchestra or an architect build a building. The authority in the practice of any craft, art, or science, can come only from the mastery of that craft, art, or science. Such authority cannot be arbitrarily conferred. Authority in book selection can come only from mastery of the world of books. Where this mastery is lacking there can be no real authority.

Book selection cannot be divorced from reading, nor can it be reduced to a series of formulae, nor can it be done by book reviewing media. I have heard of instances where book selection was done by publishers' salesmen. I have heard of instances where it consisted of automatic response to patron demand.

Knowledge of books cannot be gained by reading about them; that is a pleasant, but subsidiary, activity. Nor can our judgment of the worth of books rest exclusively upon the opinions of others. That is very much like a surgeon's directing an operation by telephone. Taste and the ability to discern is acquired; in literature it is acquired only by reading. The worth of each new book must be measured by past reading and acquired knowledge. Through much reading each librarian will arrive at his own conception of the good, and this will result in a good library. Although his judgment is personal, the more he reads the more likely that his judgments will agree with those of other men of taste, discrimination, and learning.

Miss Fiske suggests that librarians are uncertain in book selection because they are insecure and unsure of their status. I wonder if any librarian thoroughly at home in the world of books has any doubt concerning his status.

Reading, in itself, is not enough; one must read well. I have known reading librarians who read much but not widely, who read Marquand but not Kafka, Ruark but not Montaigne, Keys but not Donne or Blake. I rather think that these librarians consider themselves as reading librarians and make supercilious remarks about librarians who do not read. To them I commend these lines from Pope's *Essay on Criticism*:

A little learning is a dangerous thing;  
Drink deep, or taste not the Pierian spring:  
There shallow draughts intoxicate the brain,  
And drinking largely sobers us again.

The primary problem is that authority in book selection derives from much reading, and all too many librarians have failed to earn that authority.



(Continued from page 178)

able to attend, but Assemblymen John Busterud and Charles Myers did join the group for lunch.

The afternoon program consisted of three discussion groups:

**Interlibrary Loans**—uses, abuses and possible solutions. Mrs. Bertha Hellum, Contra Costa County Librarian, served as moderator; aspects of the problem were presented by Miss Constance Lee of the State Library; Mrs. Dorothy Roberts, Alameda County Library; Mrs. Edith Duke, Mountain View City Library; and Mrs. Margaret Uridge, University of California Library. The general tenor of the discussion was that interlibrary loans are a privilege, not a right; and that interlibrary loan should not be used as a crutch to compensate for an inadequate book budget. Unfortunately many libraries are abusing the privilege of interlibrary loan.

**Library service and the "systems" concept.** Dr. Ed Wight, of the University of California School of Librarianship, served as moderator for this discussion. Librarians from member libraries of the North Bay Cooperative Library system explained the origin and proposed plan of operation of this system and told what special function each library planned to perform as part of the system.

**Book Selection and Censorship**—implications of the Fiske Report. Mr. Robert Sumpter, Librarian of Capuchino High School, served as moderator for this panel discussion. Joe Biggins of Contra Costa County Library, Stanley Wiseman of the San Mateo Times, Mrs. Iris Mote, a San Francisco library patron, and Mr. Francis Hutchinson, Vice-Principal of the Woodside High School, presented their views of the Fiske Report. There was some criticism of the techniques used in the study, but it was generally felt that the report was

valid and that it should be considered as a guidepost, not an indictment. Two of the panelists suggested that librarians should improve their public relations since the "public fears what it does not know or understand."

VIRGINIA ROSS  
President

## YOSEMITE DISTRICT

THE YOSEMITE DISTRICT MEETING was held April 23, at the Merced Fairgrounds, presided over by Mrs. June Young Hussey, Merced Librarian and President of the Yosemite District of CLA.

Registration and a coffee hour was held at 9:30 a.m., after which the meeting began with Mrs. Carma Zimmerman, who spoke of the forthcoming Governor's Conference and of various problems of the State Library. Miss June Bayless, CLA President, spoke of the plans for the annual meeting in the fall.

At 11:00 a.m., Miss Helen Bird, of the Fresno County Library, moderated a panel discussion concerning Interlibrary Loan usage. The panelists were: Mrs. Stephanie Hillman, Fresno State College Library; Mrs. Katherine Robertson, Coalinga District Library; and Mrs. Hilda Collins, Tulare County Library. Problems vary between types of libraries but the consensus of opinion seemed to be that an interlibrary code for California libraries is urgently needed.

The afternoon program was a discussion on the relationships and responsibilities of the different types of libraries and was moderated by Mr. Robert Burn, Merced County Library. The panelists were Mildred Eshnaur, a school librarian; Elizabeth Feigenbutz, a young adult librarian of a County Library; Robert T. Jordan, from a Jr. College library; Rosamund Taylor, from a hospital library; and

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Rosa Worth, from a military post library. The interesting part of this discussion revolved around the problem of the heavy use of public library facilities by students.

This is one of the problems which proved of great interest to the participants of the Governor's Conference and would no doubt be worth following up in further discussion.

**ALICE M. HANNA**  
*President*

### **MT. SHASTA DISTRICT**

THE MT. SHASTA DISTRICT MEETING was held April 9 on the campus of Yuba College in Marysville. The meeting was attended by approximately sixty members and guests.

A joint meeting was held in the morning with the Upper California Council of Teachers of English to hear Dr. Mark Schorer of the University of California at Berkeley speak on "Sinclair Lewis and the Nobel Prize."

Following this the first half of the business meeting for the Librarians was held. Miss June Bayless delivered a message as CLA President and Mrs. Carma Zimmerman gave a talk entitled "Keeping our Balance."

In the second half of the business meeting, which took place at the beginning of the afternoon session, the reports of the nominating committee were heard and Miss Esther Mardon, of the Shasta County Library, reported on the Children's section of the CLA. Thereafter, an unusual presentation on the "Sweep of Oriental Literature" was given by Mr. Robert Johnson, a graduate of the University of California at Berkeley, Institute of Oriental Studies. He presented a bibliography of basic books desirable in public and school libraries which would increase the understanding of this area of our world.

**ROBERT H. STAEBLIN**  
*President*

### **REDWOOD DISTRICT**

BOOK SELECTION for children and young people was the theme of the workshop which was held at the annual meeting of the Redwood District of the California Library Association on May 7, 1960. The afternoon meeting brought together thirty-nine people, including librarians and teachers from various organizations, who gathered at the Humboldt State College Library.

Mrs. Mae Durham, Lecturer, UC School of Librarianship, was the chairman and coordinator of the workshop. In her introduction Mrs. Durham spoke of the importance of book selection. Not only must you know what your public wants, but you must also "help them develop a taste for good books." She pointed out that in book selection there is no substitute for reading the book. If this is impossible, then five or six reviews should be read and compared.

The afternoon meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m., and the group had the opportunity to see the 19th Western Books Exhibition, on display in the Library.

At the evening meeting, forty persons heard District President Carlyle Parker introduce CLA President June Bayless, State Librarian Carma Zimmerman, and Assemblyman Frank P. Belotti. Miss Bayless summarized the activities of the Association, and gave the highlights of the Annual Conference to be held at the Huntington-Sheraton Hotel in Pasadena. Mrs. Zimmerman spoke on the role of the State Library and the relationships between it and the county and city libraries.

Assemblyman Belotti closed the session with an address which covered State Aid to libraries, the importance of libraries, and the Master Plan for Higher Education in California.

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APRIL 29, 1960

We have examined the balance sheets of the California Library Association, a nonprofit corporation, at December 31, 1959 and 1958, and the related statements of changes in funds and income and expenses for the year ended December 31, 1959. Our examination was made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, and accordingly included such tests of the accounting records and such other auditing procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

In our opinion, the accompanying comparative balance sheet, summary of changes in funds, and statement of income and expense present fairly the financial position of the California Library Association at December 31, 1959 and 1958, and the results of its operations for the year ended December 31, 1959, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles applied each year on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.

FARQUHAR & HEIMBUCHER  
Certified Public Accountants

CALIFORNIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

COMPARATIVE BALANCE SHEET  
At December 31, 1959 and 1958

Assets	1959	1958
Cash—Commercial account	\$ 4,067.42	9,732.42
Savings accounts	17,312.47	14,664.39
Office cash fund	100.00	100.00
U.S. Government bonds at cost	21,479.89	24,496.81
Accounts receivable	703.00	703.00
	323.96	—
	<u>\$22,506.85</u>	<u>25,199.81</u>
<i>Liabilities and Funds</i>		
Accounts payable	\$ 322.90	218.96
Federal income tax withheld	554.81	449.90
Social security tax payable	80.81	54.76
Sales tax payable	28.60	288.22
Total liabilities	987.12	1,011.84
Funds—General	20,131.78	21,073.25
Life membership	1,387.95	1,387.95
Film Circuit—Northern	—	1,713.48
Southern	—	13.29
Total funds	<u>21,519.73</u>	<u>24,187.97</u>
	<u>\$22,506.85</u>	<u>25,199.81</u>

SUMMARY OF CHANGES IN FUNDS  
For the Year ended December 31, 1959

	Balance December 31, 1958	Additions	Reductions	Balance December 31, 1959
Special funds				
Life membership	\$ 1,387.95	—	—	1,387.95
Film Circuit—Northern	1,713.48	1,000.00	2,713.48	—
Southern	13.29	—	13.29	—
Total special funds	3,114.72	1,000.00	2,726.77	1,387.95
General fund	21,073.25	37,717.99	38,659.46	20,131.78
Total funds	<u>\$24,187.97</u>	<u>38,717.99</u>	<u>41,386.23</u>	<u>21,519.73</u>



## STATEMENT OF GENERAL FUND INCOME AND EXPENSES

For the Year ended December 31, 1959

<i>Income</i>	<i>Actual</i>	<i>Budget</i>	<i>Over (Under)</i>
Individual dues			
General	\$18,408.79		
Districts—Southern meeting	903.00		
Golden Gate meeting	320.00		
Mt. Shasta meeting	146.25		
Institutional dues	19,778.04	18,000.00	1,778.04
Librarian advertising	3,238.06	3,000.00	238.06
Annual conference	3,664.73	3,100.00	564.73
Sales of publications	9,117.98	5,000.00	4,117.98
Interest on savings	1,234.54	1,900.00	(665.46)
Sundry	648.08	—	648.08
	36.56	—	36.56
Total income	37,717.99	31,000.00	6,717.99
<i>Expenses</i>			
Salaries			
Executive secretary	6,600.00	6,600.00	—
Office help	3,362.06	4,500.00	(1,137.94)
California Librarian editor	1,200.00	1,200.00	—
Office operation and maintenance			
Equipment	709.72	1,450.00	(740.28)
Postage	853.71	1,000.00	(146.29)
Printing	415.69	375.00	40.69
Rent	900.00	900.00	—
Maintenance of equipment	106.45	100.00	6.45
Telephone and telegraph	238.96	250.00	(11.04)
Utilities and cleaning	120.00	120.00	—
Supplies	1,203.91	800.00	403.91
Insurance	57.30	60.00	(2.70)
District expense			
Golden Empire	267.36	359.00	(91.64)
Golden Gate	458.41	276.00	182.41
Mt. Shasta	268.19	196.00	72.19
Redwood	153.66	238.00	(84.34)
Southern	1,310.32	428.00	882.32
Yosemite	147.81	267.00	(119.19)
Travel and promotion			
Executive secretary	296.38	220.00	76.38
President	775.49	1,250.00	(474.51)
Other officers	797.87	948.00	(150.13)
Audit	125.00	100.00	25.00
Roster of members	83.88	225.00	(141.12)
Payroll taxes	307.97	272.00	35.97
Section expenses	721.09	1,646.00	(924.91)
Annual conference	5,820.78	1,000.00	4,820.78
California Librarian publication	4,632.03	4,800.00	(167.97)
Legislative	2,909.34	3,800.00	(890.66)
Newsletter	224.02	450.00	(225.98)
Roundtables	180.74	465.00	(284.26)
Committees			
Legislative	1,821.55	1,700.00	121.55
Other	1,042.77	2,780.00	(1,737.23)
Other expenses	547.00	625.00	(78.00)
Total expenses	38,659.46	39,400.00	(740.54)
Excess of expenses over income	\$ (941.47)	(8,400.00)	7,458.53

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## **AZUSA PUBLIC LIBRARY**

*by* GLADYS ALEXANDER

THE SITE of the new Azusa Public Library is on Dalton Avenue, two blocks east of the intersection of Foothill Boulevard and Azusa Avenue, in the park area of the Civic Center block. The building is just north of, and replaces, the outgrown Carnegie library building, which has been in use since 1909. The new building is designed for the present population of 20,000, as well as to be expanded to accommodate a projected population of 50,000 in the year 2000. The completion date was in February, and the dedication on April 5, 1959. Azusa was most fortunate in enjoying a financial status which saw the entire project completed on a cash basis.

There are now approximately 35,000 books, including 10,000 for children. The volume capacity can be increased to 50,000 with only slight infringement on the spaciousness. The present seating capacities of the reading areas—82 for adults and 42 for children—also may be considerably increased without serious defect. To provide for expansion, the north and south ends of the reading rooms are structurally designed so that the wide windows and curtain walls below may be removed.

Structurally, the building is a modified post and beam system. Bearing walls, exterior and interior, are reinforced, grouted, modular common brick; non-bearing partitions are wood

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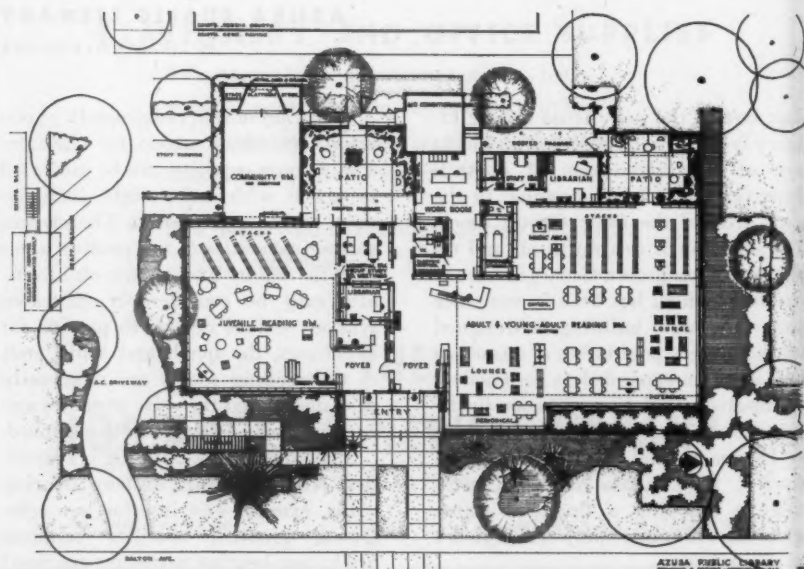
studding. Posts are exposed and non-exposed tubular steel columns with portions of the bearing walls also used for vertical support. Roof beams are a combination of long-span and exposed glue-laminated wood, timber purlins, non-exposed steel girders, and wood joists. The roof deck is plywood with four-foot spans, covered with a built-up gravel-finished roofing.

The roof skylights in the center of the reading rooms are of steel tube columns and beams, raised two and one-half feet above roof level, with glass sides, perforated, acoustical metal roof decking, exposed and painted. Daylight from these skylights—which filter out all glare—combined with large wall areas of glass, eliminate the need for artificial lighting on normal bright days. Glare from the windows is reduced by the use of wide eaves.

The exterior veneer foundation base is natural un-cut Bouquet Canyon Oro Verde stone; exterior wall veneer is

polished Italian Travertine. These veneers were used because (1) they have great esthetic value and (2) they reduce maintenance costs. They require no painting or other care, except for an occasional washing with water.

The entire interior is air-conditioned with automatic forced-air ventilation, heating and cooling in four zones, with humidity control. The reading and community rooms are lighted with custom-designed perimeter and enameled metal troughs. These have from two to four rows of fluorescent lamps each, all lapped to eliminate dark spots, with a partial intensity control. This system produces bottom or direct-down lighting diffused through white plexiglass, and open indirect top lighting reflected from the Navajo-white ceilings. A range of fifty to seventy-five foot-candles is available as desired. All electrical ballasts are grouped in a control center for ease of maintenance and to remove hum and heat from the in-







Photographs by Julius Shulman

terior. This plan offset its additional initial cost because of the reduced load on the air-conditioning system.

Interior painted surfaces are in various off-white tones, complimented with charcoal gray accents. The paneling is in Samara and birch. The front entry doors and all window frames are of aluminum alloy, with polished plate glass throughout. White acoustical fibre tile covers all ceilings except in the community room, where the exposed roof beams and sheathing are stained a grayed-brown. Vinyl tile in marbelized cream-tan and gray patterns covers all floors.

All white maple shelving and main furniture are by Sjöström; the chairs and desks in walnut and the balance in grayed natural finishes. The furniture in the lounge areas, staff and office areas, the stacking chairs and tables in the community room and patios are by Herman Miller. These are in combinations of various subdued and high colored materials.

Exterior painted surfaces, in cocoa and tobacco browns, weathered coral and bark-olive green, compliment the

beige luster of the Travertine veneer.

One of the design requirements was to display a quite valuable mineral collection bequeathed to the city. The semi-open screen separating the adult and juvenile foyers was used for this purpose. Another design requirement was to isolate the community room somewhat so that it could be used, and the rest rooms opened, without opening the library proper.

After our first year's occupancy, some of the most noticeable features contributing to a favorable public reaction and quite satisfactory working conditions could be summed up as follows: the efficient day-lighting and diffused artificial lighting with no glare or shadows; the near-perfect air-conditioning; location of the charge-out desks; the usual entrance noise not being apparent to people in reading and study areas due to the wide entrances and semi-separation; the outstanding overall acoustics; the semi-detached community room; every area and office having windows and outside entrance; and finally the simplicity and restfulness of the colorful contem-



porary furnishings. Our circulation has increased seventeen per cent.

#### BUILDING DATA

ARCHITECT: Benjamin S. Parker, A.I.A.; fee, \$17,055.21.

BUILDING COSTS: site, city-owned; construction, 15,400 sq. ft. at \$13.46 a sq. ft.; total cost, \$207,366; landscaping, patios—Beverly Lewis, exterior—Courtland Paul, cost, \$5,553.44; total project cost, \$284,294.

TYPE OF CONSTRUCTION: modified post and beam; brick, stone and Travertine veneers.

LIGHTING: fluorescent through plexiglass and indirect; incandescent spots.

FLOORS: Vinyl tile.

HEATING AND AIR-CONDITIONING: fully automatic, forced-air ventilation, gas-fired boiler and refrigerated cooling in four zones, with humidity control.

BOOKS: capacity, 40,000.

SEATING: adults, 90; juvenile, 52; community room, 100.

SHELVING: maple, Sjöström, from Austin-Bentley.

LIBRARY FURNITURE: Sjöström, from Austin-Bentley; cost, including shelving, \$33,440.31.

OTHER FURNISHINGS: lounge areas and community room, Herman Miller, from Hart-Cobb-Cartley; cost, \$6,925.15.

DRAPERIES AND BLINDS: McLees and Hart-Cobb-Carley; cost, \$1,184.40.

NOTE: Subsequent to the final site selection, the librarian and architect attended the Fifth Annual Institute-Workshop conducted by the State Library in March 1957. This timely experience—four days of intensive discussions—proved to be of inestimable value during the planning and preparation of drawings. We believe this building reflects some of the philosophies there expounded.

## Selection\*

## COLOR\*

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(Continued from page 142)

ber 6, will have some innovations this year, and it is hinted that a surprise entertainment group will contribute to the festive atmosphere.

Not all sections have completed their plans, but the C.U.R.L.S. Section meeting on Thursday morning promises to be of exceptional interest. Professor Dean McHenry, the University's representative on the Master Plan Liaison Committee, will speak on "The Prospects of Higher Education in California during the Sixties." Following this will be comments from librarians on the implications of the Donahoe Act for various kinds of academic libraries.

Cost of the Conference varies with the time of registration: \$4.50 for those pre-registering by mail no later than midnight, September 27, and \$5.00 for those registering at the hotel and not wishing to save 50 cents. Daily registration fee will be \$2.00. Calvin Tooker, chairman of the CLA Registration Committee, urges everyone to pre-register at an early date to avoid last-minute delays and confusion. Detailed pre-registration information will reach all paid CLA membership shortly.

Weather is not a factor to overlook for Pasadena Octobers are warm. Light garments are recommended, and for those so inclined, swimming in the hotel's olympic-size pool is a must.

Plan to attend what promises to be a memorable conference, October 4-8. Watch for specific information on hotels, cost factors, and detailed program schedules.

**Conference  
Calendar on  
pages 198-199**

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**62ND ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
CALIFORNIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION  
HUNTINGTON-SHERATON HOTEL  
PASADENA, CALIFORNIA**

**THEME:**

**PEOPLE: THE REASON FOR LIBRARIES  
OCTOBER 4-8, 1960**

<b>HOURS</b>	<b>TUESDAY, October 4</b>	<b>WEDNESDAY, October 5</b>	<b>THURSDAY, October 6</b>	<b>FRIDAY, October 7</b>	<b>SATURDAY, October 8</b>
8:00— 9:45		Building Clinic	Building Clinic	Building Clinic Young Adult Round Table Breakfast	
10:00— 12:00	<b>First General Session</b> Speaker: <b>Linus Pauling</b> (C.U.R.L.S. in charge)		<b>Meetings of sections and round tables</b> Audio-Visual; Public Libraries; Reference; C.U.R.L.S.; Technical Processes	<b>Meetings of sections and round tables</b> Children & Young People; Hospitals & Institutions; Junior College; Trustees; S.O.R.T.	C.L.A. 1960 & 1961 Boards of Directors
12:00— 1:45	<b>Luncheon</b> sponsored by U.S.C. School of Library Science Speaker: <b>Irving Stone</b>	<b>Luncheon</b> sponsored by U.C. School of Librarianship Speaker: <b>Easton Rothwell</b> (Coulter Lecture)		<b>Luncheons:</b> Trustees & Friends of Libraries Junior College Librarians R.T.	<b>Luncheon:</b> Special Libraries Association



2:00—  
3:45

**Committee Meetings**  
Adult Education; Calif.  
Library History; Public  
Relations; Editorial;  
Legislation; Professional  
Education & Recruit-  
ment; Publications.

Free afternoon

**C.L.A. Business  
Meeting (2:30 p.m.)**

**C.L.A. 1961 Board of  
Directors**

4:00—  
5:45

**C.L.A. 1960 Board  
of Directors**

**Committee Meetings**  
Documents; Intellectual  
Freedom; Library Devel-  
opment & Standards;  
National Library Week;  
Regional Resources

**C.U.R.L.S. Reception**  
(5:00 p.m.)

6:00—  
7:45

**C.L.A. 1960 Board  
of Directors'  
Dinner**

**Dinner:**  
Public Libraries  
Section (7:00 p.m.)

**Banquets Co-sponsors:**  
Children's and Young  
People's Section &  
School Library Assn. of  
California (7:00 p.m.)  
**Feature:**  
**Sam Hinton**

8:00

**President's Reception**

**Second General Session**  
**Speaker:**  
(to be announced)

**Exhibitors'**  
**Hijinks**

**Third General Session**  
**Speaker:**  
**William O. Steele**  
(Children's and Young  
People's Section in  
charge)



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### EDWIN CASTAGNA

THE APPOINTMENT of Edwin Castagna as librarian of Enoch Pratt Library has been acclaimed by the entire library profession. Baltimore's trustees could not have made a better choice. Californians, however, have received the news with mingled feelings. Our pride in this recognition of Ed's eminent fitness to head a distinguished library is tempered by a strong sense of personal loss.

Ed's successful career as Chief Librarian in Ukiah, Washoe County, Glendale and, for the last ten years in Long Beach, is well known. Under his guidance the Long Beach Public Library has developed an outstanding system of handsome and heavily-used branches, and plans have matured for a much needed new central library which will ultimately be accepted by the voters. His great ability as an administrator is witnessed by the esteem in which he is held by staff, public, and city officials alike. He has been a convincing exponent of democratic management and an articulate leader of progressive library movements.

It is for his personal qualities that Ed has been most admired and will most be missed by Californians. His modesty, generosity, humanity, and tolerance have been an inspiration to us all, and we have come to rely heav-

## People

ily on the wisdom he has gained from a broad background of practical experience, extensive reading, and social intelligence.

We salute Ed and Rachel, his charming wife, as they take with them to new fields the warm and sincere affection of all of us.

*Harold H. Hamill*

*City Librarian*

*Los Angeles Public Library*



### BLANCHE COLLINS

WHEN the Long Beach City Manager had the position of City Librarian to fill by appointment, he was more fortunate than most officials in such a situation. Within the library organization were several librarians with excellent qualifications. From these he selected Miss Blanche Collins, a librarian known throughout the State for her many professional contributions and recognized locally as a civic leader with years of active participation in important community projects.

As Assistant City Librarian in charge of extension work, Miss Collins planned six branch libraries. These branches have attracted visitors not

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only from this country but from abroad. All those who observe the branches have seen how skillful Miss Collins is at providing for efficient functioning within an attractive framework. Each building is a complete community cultural center. In most of the branches some aesthetically pleasing feature has been incorporated into the design, such as a representation of one of the trading ships in which Richard Henry Dana cruised up and down the California coast in his *Two Years before the Mast*, at Dana Branch, unusual metal sculptures of characters from Bret Harte's California stories at Bret Harte, and murals by Taro Yashima, the famous author and illustrator of children's books, at Bay Shore.

In addition to her outstanding abilities as a planner of library facilities, which she may soon be putting to use in a big way in the new main library building for Long Beach, Miss Collins is an outstanding library administrator. She has studied administrative methods and techniques at the Western Training Laboratory at Idyllwild, and in a number of other courses. Miss Collins knows how to bring out the best in the people she works with.

But above all of her other qualities stands Blanche Collins' commitment to the world of books. No conversation about books in her presence ever ends without her thoughtful and often critical comments which reveal the breadth and depth of her reading interests. She is completely at home with bookish people and she has spent many years in nurturing wholesome bookishness in thousands of her fellow citizens.

Since coming out of her home town of Visalia, Miss Collins received her B.A. degree from Mills College and her B.L.S. from the Carnegie Institute of Technology Library School. She immediately joined the staff of the Long

Beach Public Library as a children's librarian, advancing through the ranks to be head of a branch and then head of the Science and Technology Department. In each of her positions she has contributed ideas and presided over strengthening and growing agencies.

I am pleased and proud that Blanche Collins has been named as my successor. My only regret is that I know I can count on memory of my part in the history of the Long Beach Public Library being dimmed by the brilliance of her administration.

Edwin Castagna  
Director

Enoch Pratt Free Library  
Baltimore



#### **ALICE REILLY**

Mrs. ALICE F. REILLY recently was appointed the third Fresno County Librarian since that library was established. She replaces Mrs. Margaret G. VanDussen who retired in April.

Mrs. Reilly is not new to California. She will be remembered as a consultant on the State Library staff since 1958. She came to California from Florida where she was a consultant on the State Library staff. Before that she was Head Librarian of the Manhattan, Kansas, Public Library. While in Kansas Mrs. Reilly served as chairman of the Legislative Committee; Secretary, and as President of the Kansas Library



Association. She has also contributed to professional literature. Prior to that time she worked in school and army libraries. Mrs. Reilly was born in Denver and attended schools there. She took her library degree from the University of Denver, 1933.

Mrs. Reilly's varied background of experience in the library field and her pleasant friendly personality make her a "natural" for this job of directing library service in this large county system. The staff has already recognized her ability as an administrator and her easy, relaxed manner in all her contacts.

*Mrs. Mable Walling*

*Public Relations Librarian*

*Fresno County Library*



# ERNEST TOY

ERNEST W. TOY, JR., was born in Pasadena and received his early education there through junior college. He earned his B.A. degree at the College of St. Thomas, St. Paul, Minnesota, in 1947. His M.S. degree in library science was taken at the University of Southern California in 1948, followed by an M.A. in history from U.C.L.A. in 1950.

Mr. Toy was assistant order librarian at Los Angeles State College from 1952 to 1954, and was college librarian at Riverside City College from 1954 until 1959, when he joined the new Orange County State College staff as College Librarian.

Mr. Toy is a navy veteran of World War II and the Korean War. He has continued with that interest and now holds the rank of Lt. Commander in the naval reserve.

Orange County State College began holding classes for upper division students in September 1959. Mr. Toy has the responsibility of providing library services for the present enrollment of 500 students, and is charged with the building up of a library for the college whose enrollment is expected to reach 15,000 by 1970 and 35,000 by 1980. The college library is now housed in a classroom in one of the Fullerton high schools, but will move during the summer to a temporary library building on the college's own campus. In 1963 the library will move again to occupy a

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38,000 square foot floor of the new science building, where it will stay until the college library is constructed, probably in 1965.

Mr. Toy has been called upon to help design the layout of all those library facilities, in addition to supervising all library services.

*Stuart F. McComb*  
Executive Dean

*Orange County State College*



## TYRUS HARMSEN

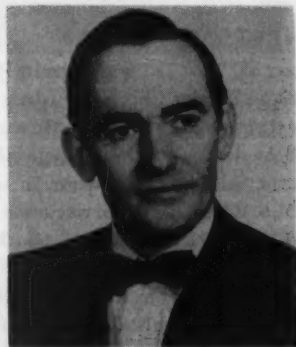
IN SEPTEMBER, 1959, Occidental College appointed a new librarian to replace Dr. Andrew Horn, who joined the staff of the UCLA Library School. Mr. Harmsen came to Occidental from the Henry E. Huntington Library, where he was Assistant Curator of Manuscripts. His knowledge of rare books and manuscripts has been of genuine importance in his training as a "bookman," rather than merely as an administrator.

Harmsen was born in Pomona, served in the Army during World War II, and is twice a graduate of Stanford University—B.A., 1947, M.A. in History, 1950. He earned his professional library degree in the graduate school of the University of Michigan (A.B.L.S.,

1948). He joined the Huntington Library staff in 1948. Mr. Harmsen took a prominent part in the programs of the highly successful conference on rare book librarianship, held at the University of Virginia last June, under the sponsorship of the Association of College and Research Libraries. He participates actively in the affairs of professional library organizations, is the Secretary of ACRL's Rare Books Section, edits the Zamorano Club's quarterly *Hoja Volante*, and is Treasurer of the Rounce and Coffin Club. Mrs. Lois Harmsen, *née* Spaulding, was, until her marriage, the Reference Librarian of the Scripps College Library; and before that she had served as a children's librarian in the San Diego and the Pasadena Public libraries. The Harmsens—Lois, Ty, and three-year-old son, Mark—reside in Pasadena.

*Andrew F. Rolle*  
Chairman, Faculty Library  
Committee

*Occidental College*



## WILLIAM R. ESHELMAN

LOOKING BACK at the preparation for librarianship of William R. Eshelman, successor to the lamented Beverly Caverhill as College Librarian of Los



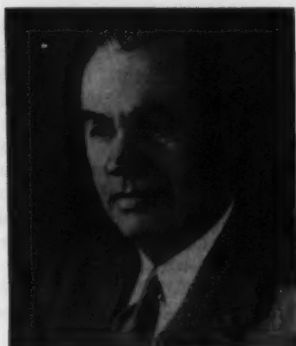
Angeles State College, we see a variety of relevant education and experience. Born in Oklahoma, Eshelman has lived in Southern California since 1926, through the years of accelerated urbanization. His schooling has ranged from the Whittier public schools through Pasadena City College, Chapman College (A.B.), and UCLA (M.A. in English), to the University of California School of Librarianship in Berkeley (B.L.S.) His professional experience, all at Los Angeles State College since 1951, has included every aspect of library work — technical processes, readers' services, and administration.

While taking the M.A. at UCLA, Eshelman served as Teaching Assistant, and even more important, as Bibliographical Assistant, to Professor Majl Ewing, the book chairman of the department, and he also took the graduate bibliographical course from Professor Hugh Dick. It was then, in 1948-50, that I first met "Esh" in his daily work in the Library, although earlier I had collected the productions of the private press, the Untide, which he and Kemper Nomland, Jr. operated from 1943 to 1955. They also edited, designed and printed a magazine called *The Illiterati*.

This is a practical bibliographical background ideal for librarians— literary and bibliographical studies and the writing and actual printing of pamphlets and magazines. Since 1947, Eshelman has been a leader in the Rounce and Coffin Club of Los Angeles. He has also been active in CLA, AAUP, and Ford Foundation work. His latest undertaking is the editorship of the *California Librarian*.

Lawrence Clark Powell  
University Librarian

U.C.L.A.



**CARLETON BRUNS JOECKEL**  
(1886-1960)

FROM HIS MANY CONTRIBUTIONS to librarianship it is possible to choose two which are most likely to honor his memory, and which Professor Joeckel himself might have chosen, had it been possible to penetrate his sincere sense of modesty. The first of these is suggested in his title of professor. He began teaching at California only eleven years after being graduated from the New York State Library School in 1910—and continued an active interest in the progress of the School of Librarianship long after he retired from the University of California in 1950. Throughout this long period—whether he happened to be resident at California, Michigan, Chicago, or again California—his interest was centered in the student, in persistently seeking ways to stimulate the student into making his maximum contribution. Significantly more than most eminent scholars, Professor Joeckel recognized and fulfilled his obligation to discover, stimulate, and train the scholars of the future.

Another major contribution for which Jock will be long remembered is his faith in the concept of larger units of service for the development of good library service to the people of America — a faith and concept for which he is known the world over. Already fully developed in his monumental 1935 dissertation, *The Government of the American Public Library*, Jock kept the idea of larger units in the forefront of library thinking through long years of work with the American Library Association

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Federal Relations Committee, through research and writing, and through the sponsorship of institutes in the field of library extension and the subsequent editing of their papers. And, always, through his teaching! So much so that it is possible to say—with a real sense of historical accuracy—that the Library Services Act, now in its fourth successful year, is a creation of the fertile mind and persistent hard work of Professor Carleton Bruns Joeckel.

*LeRoy Charles Merritt*  
Professor of Librarianship  
*University of California*

## NECROLOGY

Cornelia Douglas Provines, San Francisco, 13 August 1959.

Mrs. Floride H. Charles, Calexico, 4 December 1959.

Lillian Cherniss, Los Angeles 1 January 1960.

N. Barbara Cook, Pasadena, 6 February 1960.

Hazel Wheeler, San Diego, 27 February 1960.

Helen S. Stevenson, Pasadena, 1 March 1960.

Blanche Elizabeth McKown, 10 March 1960.

Mrs. Katherine Woods Watson, Quincy, 31 March 1960.

Natalie Lapike, Visalia, 23 May 1960.

## A Letter

### TO THE EDITOR:

LIBRARIANS seriously concerned with the future of public librarianship in this state would do well to consider how much damage has been caused by the intemperate, prejudiced reply by J. W. Perkins to the article by P. T. Conmy, "The Magna Carta of the California Public Library." In four years of careful reading of all of the major library publications, I have never been so appalled at such an extraordinary lack of taste and such mischievous bigotry.

Mr. Perkins' diatribe reeks with the unalleviated, unrelenting portrayal of school librarians, the State Department of Education and "educationists" in general as some form of lower life beneath his contempt who are impossible to associate with in any way. . . . There are many loaded devices sprinkled throughout his "article," such as innuendo, the liberal use of quotation marks to indicate objects of contempt, and sarcasm.

The entire tone of the article is so objectionable and so loaded with abuse that it is perhaps inappropriate to dignify it with a detailed criticism. A few observations will suffice. In his last paragraph, Mr. Perkins insinuates about the evil machinations of the "library politicians." I would like to ask, "Who are these devilish characters who are attempting to 'institute state operation of city libraries?'" These fearsome bogeymen should obviously be exposed—let's have an investigation and discover the names of these conspirators!

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### Advice to Librarians:

Plato says, "If in addition to having courage, prudence, and justice, the librarian has labored at the menial tasks of his art, then he has all the qualifications that can be expected, for the leader should be made to descend among the prisoners in the den and partake of their labours and honours."\*

Hutchins says, "As we are the largest importers and wholesalers on the West Coast of books published in Japan, Indonesia, Philippines, Hong Kong, Taiwan, India, Pakistan, Southeast Asia, and Australia, our best advice to librarians is to come to us for their needs in these fields!"

\*Dr. David Davies' article, *California Librarian*, July 1958.

The first paragraph offers sarcasm about the shortened hours, improved pay and lengthened vacations of school librarians. True, school libraries should be given the staff time to be open longer hours, but will it be helpful to the public librarians to drag down and carp at the advances made by school librarians?

\* \* \* \* \*

Despite Mr. Perkins' sentimental attachment to locally controlled school and public libraries and disgust at any educational or library politics at the state level, the best hope for improving the condition of school libraries lies in legislation (dare I say Federal or International?), which can only be adopted through the activities of "library politicians" . . .

I believe the most acute problem facing both libraries and schools in America today is the absurd dependence on local taxes for their support, which means that there is a fantastic difference in the quality of library



service depending upon the wealth of a particular taxing district. The children of America deserve equal opportunities in education and in libraries. This can only be achieved through some form of federal equalizing legislation. There is also a need for national minimum standards. If we are sufficiently determined, we do not need to have Federal control. The experience of the Scandinavian countries is proof of that.

I believe that both public and school librarians should have such open minds, such a wide vision, be so imbued with a common zeal of learning, love of books and eagerness to aid in the development of the individual (and the group!) that problems of inter-institutional relationships would solve themselves—there would be no room for bitter antagonisms or jealousy. . . . Mr. Perkins, I invite you to join with all school and public librarians in developing improved library service.

Robert T. Jordan  
Librarian

Taft College

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## POSITIONS OPEN

Classified advertisements for this section are at the rate of 15¢ a word. In addition to one publication in this journal, the ad will appear in the immediately preceding issue of the mimeographed newsletter, *C.L.A. Affairs*, if it is received soon enough. There is no extra charge for this publication in the newsletter.

**REFERENCE LIBRARIAN**, Occidental College. Position open June 1 for graduate of an accredited library school. Some experience desirable; beginning salary dependent upon education and experience. Write: Librarian, Occidental College, Los Angeles 41, California.

**LIBRARIAN II**—\$446-\$550, immediate vacancy in the cataloging section. Library Science degree and three years professional experience including one year in cataloging necessary. Pleasant working conditions—excellent benefits—Civil Service. Examination will consist of an oral interview only. Apply: Personnel Department, City of Santa Monica.

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